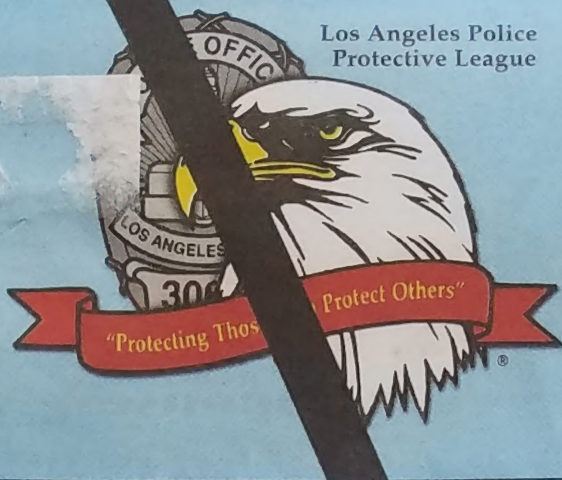


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The
**Blue
Line**

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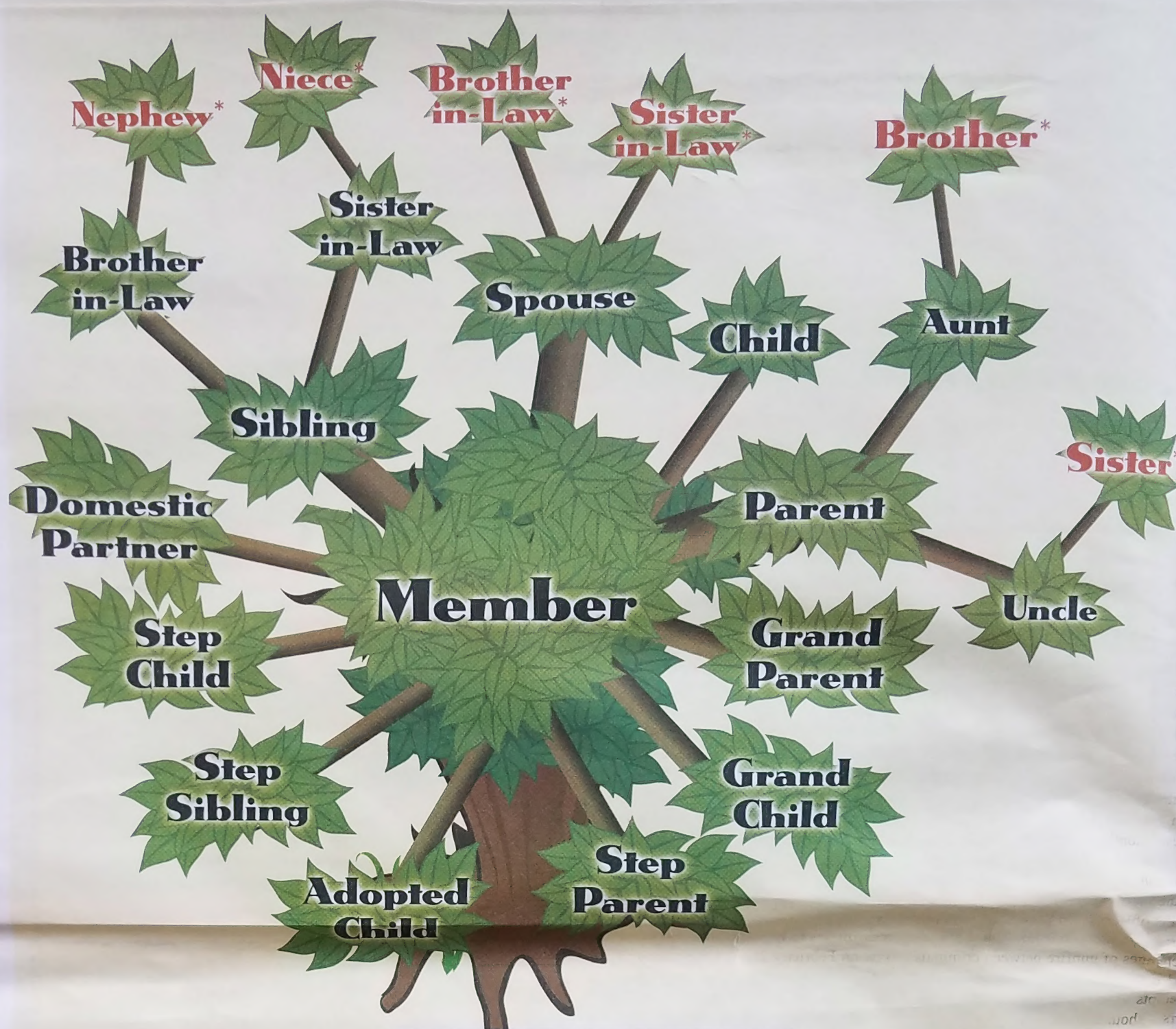
IN MEMORIAM



Police Officer II Ricardo Lizarraga, #36046

On February 20, 2004, 31 year-old Los Angeles Police Department Officer Ricardo Lizarraga was killed in the line of duty. Ricardo Lizarraga was born on January 24, 1973, in Los Angeles, California. He joined the Los Angeles Police Department on September 25, 2001, and graduated from the Los Angeles Police Academy in April 2002. Upon graduation, Officer Lizarraga worked patrol assignments in the 77th Street Area, transferring to the Newton Area one year later. He chose Newton because he could speak Spanish and felt that there, he would be an asset to the Hispanic community. He also considered it a great privilege to be working a patrol car assigned to address specific crime problems (Z-Car). While responding to a domestic dispute call, Officer Lizarraga was shot and later succumbed to his wounds at Cedars Sinai Hospital. In an unprecedented show of support, fellow officers from adjoining divisions and departments converged on the area, surrounding and capturing the suspect.

Officer Lizarraga leaves behind his wife, Joyce, as well as his parents, Candelario and Cristina, a younger brother, Jorge, and two sisters, Lorena and Laura. To his family, friends, colleagues, and the entire Los Angeles Police Department, the League extends its deepest condolences.



LAPFCU Family Tree

WHEN SOMETHING GOOD TAKES ROOT...

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**Once an immediate family member joins, then that person's immediate family is eligible to join.*

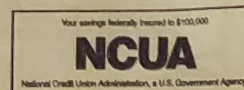


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WORDS OF FEAR: OFFICER NEEDS HELP

Bob Baker, President

It's what we all dread hearing on the radio: officer needs help – shots fired. On Friday, February 20, 2004, the call came across and instantly officers all over Los Angeles sprung into action. The crime scene near Western Avenue and 48th Street was flooded with people searching for the prime suspect; officers sped to Cedars Sinai to keep vigil while Officer **Rick Lizarraga** underwent surgery; and still more went to Newton Division to cover duties and console Officer Lizarraga's colleagues.

Sadly, though the outpouring of support was great, no matter what anyone did in the aftermath, Officer Lizarraga passed away at 3 p.m. He was 30 years old, with a wife and large extended family. He had been with the LAPD for over 2 1/2 years.

You all know what happened – we don't need to recount the sad details here. But we cannot let the death of an officer go unnoticed or unrecognized. The message must be sent that our police officers cannot be shot at and, worse, killed, and that the murderers can get away with it.

For months, I have been expressing the fear that a tragedy like this would inevitably occur without the intervention of the community or our city leaders. LAPD officers were fired upon without warning 42 times in 2003. These are not exchanges of gunfire between criminals and officers – these are cold-blooded attempts to murder unsuspecting officers without any warning.

At the time the League began to more publicly discuss our concerns with the media, the community and the leaders of the city, we were fortunate in

that no officers had been seriously injured or killed in any of these attacks. While the community response to the issue was fairly quiet, there were some commendable leaders who stepped up to call upon their neighbors and friends to speak out if they had any information on these attacks. In particular, Bishop Charles Blake of the West Angeles Church of God in Christ, called together other faith leaders to publicly urge their participation and support in bringing the attackers to justice. I had hoped that the support of prominent and trusted individuals such as Bishop Blake and their commitment to issue a call to action to local residents, would go a long way in helping to resolve this critical issue.

Certainly this should be a wake-up call to the community and our city leaders that we have allowed this problem to continue too long without any kind of public outcry or activism. We have allowed the city's gang members and criminals to take control of our communities and scare them into silence, so that they will not speak and give information, even when others' lives are on the lines.

I was afraid that if we didn't break the silence soon, we would see the shootings escalate from close calls and near misses to hits and kills, just as we saw on February 20. It's frustrating to think that something like this could have been prevented if the community were willing to stand up and be a partner with the LAPD in combating serious crime issues.

This situation also, once again, raises the concern that our police resources

are too thin. We all know that we can do more to make our city safe if we have more officers. With additional officers, we can continue to cut overtime, have more people at our disposal for deployment needs and implement more creative strategies to combat crime. Putting more officers back on the streets must be a team effort between officers, Department management, the League, the Police Commission and the City Council. While funds may not be immediately available to hire more officers, we need to continue to seek out grants and other funding sources to support essential programs.

Our jobs are dangerous as it is, but when you combine this fact with limited resources, it seems as though an additional capability of our job is cheating death. I know that the nation as a whole – trickling down to local city governments – is facing serious budget shortages, but what price can you put on a person's life? Whether officer or civilian, life is too precious to pass up opportunities we have to ensure greater protection. Our city and state legislators must take the lead in giving priority to law enforcement funding to ensure that we are offering the best protection we can to our local residents and officers. As I said, our officers are in harm's way as it is, but we shouldn't stick them out there further because it's not prudent to spend some extra money at this time.

Instead, our legislators must more carefully weigh the priorities of the people of our state – we all know that safety is of top concern, and to keep the public safe, we need more officers and

more resources to meet this need. The only way this will be done is if our state legislators get us back on the right track with our budget and put public safety at the top of their funding list.

Our Department must also make a clear evaluation of any procedures or decisions that have been made recently that may have influenced the outcome of situations such as that involving Officer Lizarraga. We must look at elements such as the Consent Decree to ensure that the procedures laid out within the Consent Decree protocol not only direct the Department in appropriate procedure, but that they also provide protections for our officers. While the elements of the Consent Decree are meant to improve our Department, it is unwise and unacceptable if any of these requirements are preventing our officers from doing a thorough job of policing and also taking measures to protect themselves and others.

February 20 was, needless to say, a very sad day for the LAPD. We had a run of six years without a fatal on-duty shooting of an officer and, while we live in constant fear that the next hour or day might bring the call of "officer needs help – shots fired," each day that passes without one provides even a short-lived sense of security and accomplishment.

On behalf of the Los Angeles Police Protective League and the men and women of the LAPD, I offer my deepest condolences to the family of Officer Lizarraga and honor him for his years of service to the LAPD and for living by the motto of the LAPD, to protect and serve, even to his dying moment. ♦

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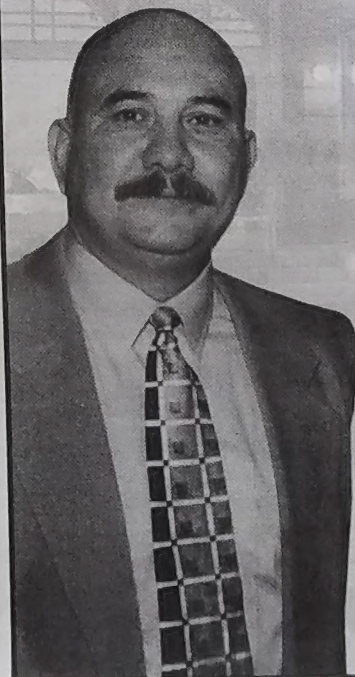
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2004

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Division	Director(s) Assigned
Central	Mitzi Grasso
Central Traffic	Mitzi Grasso
Devonshire	Tim Sands
Foothill	Peter Repovich
Harbor	Corina Lee
Hollenbeck	Luther Lutz/Mitzi Grasso
Hollywood	Paul Weber
Metro	Luther Lutz
Newton	Cliff Ruff
Northeast	Mitzi Grasso
North Hollywood	Cliff Ruff
Pacific	Ted Hunt
Rampart	Peter Repovich
77th	Luther Lutz
Southeast	Corina Lee
South Traffic	Ted Hunt
Southwest	Corina Lee
Valley Traffic	Ted Hunt
Van Nuys	Tim Sands
West Los Angeles	Bob Baker
West Traffic	Ted Hunt
West Valley	Paul Weber
Wilshire	Peter Repovich

LAPPL ACTION REPORT


Protecting Our Members

	February 2004	Year to Date
Roll Outs	11	22
Claims opened in League Legal Claims Unit	69	169
Boards of Rights assigned	9	23
Grievances opened	3	8
Grievances closed	6	12
Total grievances open	19	
Open Meet and Confers	5	21
One hour legal referrals	26	65

EDITORIAL POLICY

- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

- IUPA** International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.
- NAPO**  National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.
- CCLEA** California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.
- SCALE** Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.
- BIG 11** An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.
- BIG 50** An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.

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PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS

Tim Sands, Vice President

Officer Ricardo Lizarraga

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of this fine young officer. Rest in peace, Officer Lizarraga. EOW on February 20, 2004.

Consent Decree vs. Non-Categorical Use of Force

Since the implementation of the Consent Decree, a reportable use of force is classified as either categorical or non-categorical. A categorical use of force is:

- the use of deadly force (i.e., discharge of a firearm)
- uses of upper body control holds
- death of arrestees or detainees
- use of force resulting in death (LERI)

- use of force resulting in injury requiring hospitalization (LERI)
- head strikes with impact weapons
- canine bite requiring hospitalization

Note: CIID investigates categorical uses of force. All other reportable uses of force, including discharge of a taser and use of chemical irritant, are classified as non-categorical use of force. A non-categorical use of force is investigated by divisional field supervisors.

As stated prior, the reason the Department has categorical and non-categori-

cal uses of force is due to the Consent Decree. However, the Department policies regarding the investigation of non-categorical uses of force far exceeds the requirements of the Consent Decree. This has been flooding the Department's field supervisors and officers in an ocean of irrelevant and duplicative paperwork. Some examples of non-required work are:

Department policy requires employees involved in non-categorical use of force to report the full details of the use of force in a related Department arrest or crime report (not required by Consent Decree, only would be relevant if 148 PC or battery on a police officer)

Department policy requires employee to report full detail of the use-of-force incident on a 15.7 when a crime or arrest is not required. (not required by Consent Decree—duplicative work!)

Supervisor's duties conducting non-categorical investigations:

Department requires supervisors to identify and document any inconsistencies from witness and officer interviews (not required by Consent Decree, could lead to canned statements)

Reserve Officer Recognition Awards

The Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County honored selected reserve officers during a recent awards ceremony. LAPD Reserve Officer Ann Brunzell received a certificate of recognition for her loyal and dedicated service to the LAPD. I was honored to attend, along with Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell, to congratulate Ann and many of the other LAPD award recipients. Your service to the LAPD Reserve program is greatly appreciated.



Reserve honorees at the Awards Ceremonies.

Department supervisors shall ensure that any related arrest report or 15.7 contains complete accounts of the use of force (not required by Consent Decree)

Department supervisors shall review and approve all related reports prior to going EOW (not required by Consent Decree, the only time limit in the Consent Decree is "reviewed by division management within 14 days")

Department supervisors generally should interview witnesses in the following sequence (no sequence required by the Consent Decree)

Department supervisors shall photograph the scene and provide descriptions of photographs with report (not required by Consent Decree)

Department supervisors shall cause a



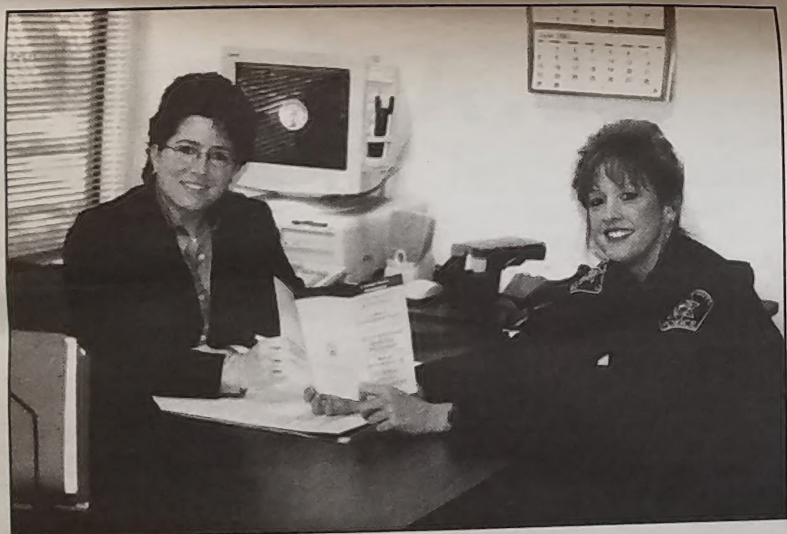
Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell, Reserve Officer Ann Brunzell and League Vice President Tim Sands.

diagram of scene to be drawn when appropriate (not required by Consent Decree)

The W/C or O.I.C. reviewing the use-

continued on page 30

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DOES MONEY GROW ON TREES?

Ted Hunt, Secretary

Did you ever have the experience where one of your children came to you and asked for money, then not long after asked for more and more and more? Finally out of frustration and anger you retorted, "Do you think money grows on trees?"

This month's *Blue Line* is focused on benefits and my article considers the issue of how do we pay for those benefits. Just like all of us, the City (who hires us to do an unusually difficult job) does not have a money tree. Most of our City's money comes from taxes. (See attached chart)

And also just like you and me, there are many stresses and strains on the City's wallet.

When we pay our LOCAL taxes, the money goes up to Sacramento. A very large portion of the money that the City uses to pay our wages and benefits is the very money that goes to Sacramento.

Then, **IF** and when Sacramento decides to send our LOCAL money back to us, quite often it is sent back with strings attached. Those attached strings are called "mandates." In the past, when Sacramento has run into financial problems, like they have now, they simply kept our money. If they keep our (the City's) money, where does the City get money to pay us?

The City has two parts of its budget.

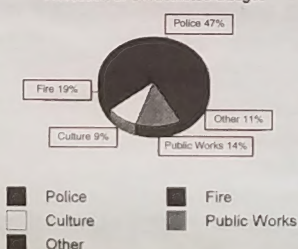
One is the "restricted" part, where money must go. The law requires "restricted money" to be spent on specific things. The other part of the budget is the unrestricted part. Those funds are not restricted and not required to be spent on specific things.

There are five major categories of unrestricted budget spending: police; fire; culture such as libraries, parks, recreation, museums, etc.; public works such as tree trimming, street sweeping and maintenance, etc.; and other, such as the operation of government itself, city clerk, mayor, council, etc. The chart shows the percentages of spending of unrestricted funds for FY 2003-04 in the City of Los Angeles.

Police	46.8%
Fire	18.9%
Culture	9.6%
Public Works	13.9%
Other	10.8%

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Allocation of Unrestricted Budget



By far the largest percentage of the City's unrestricted budget goes to pay for public safety. That is where it should go, after all, the primary reason for government is the safety and security of the public. No one wants to live, work, invest or vacation in a location where your family is constantly in danger.

This whole taxing system is really screwed up. It would be nice to waive a magic wand and cure all of its ills. That isn't going to happen because some of the things that we believe are the "ills", other powerful political interests believe are good, just and right. And vice versa.

Because the system is broken, we have joined forces to fix it. Not a complete and total fix, but the first step in the process to fix it.

We are part of a coalition of cities, counties and forward thinking unions like the League, called L.O.C.A.L. (Leave Our Community Assets Local), which is sponsoring and helping to circulate the petitions for the Local Taxpayers and Public Safety Protection Act. The beauty of this initiative is its simplicity. It only does three things.

What does it do:

State Legislature can **NOT** take local government money and use it for state purposes unless the **VOTERS approve** it.

Ensures that local tax dollars pay for local services like police and fire, libraries and parks, roads, etc.

Ensures the state mandates are paid by the state and not the way it is now, paid by local government.

Simply put, the state cannot take local money without a vote of the people. And the state cannot force local governments to do something (mandates) unless the state pays for it. No more "strings attached" - unfunded mandates.

What it DOES NOT do:

DOES NOT raise taxes.

DOES NOT increase local funding.

DOES NOT reduce funding for schools.

DOES NOT reduce funding for other state programs.

This initiative simply prevents the state from ripping off our money. Our paychecks and benefits come from the City. We are City employees. When the City runs out of money, they cannot pay us.

How does it benefit the people?

If you want to hire and keep the best, you have to pay them. That is Business 101. "You can't police on the cheap," says Professor George L. Kelling.

Nine months ago, Mayor Hahn and the City Council decided to invest in LAPD to save it. They invested in us. We are producing results. The turnover that was once at epidemic proportions has been reversed. There are several contributing factors to the reversal including new leadership at LAPD, much better pension, DROP, and one of the best salary bases in California.

As a very powerful political force, we at the League are trying help the City help us. That is why we are actively working on this project. With better pay and benefits we can continue to retain and hire the best. With the best people, we prove to be the best police agency.

We are working with the City to protect the very money that the City uses to pay us. You can call that selfish or pragmatic. Either way, it is the right thing to do. If you see one of those "Blue Petitions" please consider signing it.

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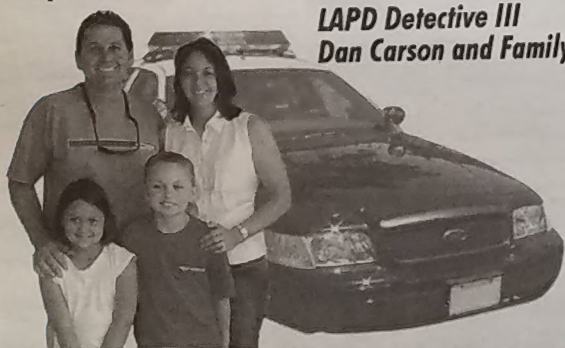
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ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Cliff Ruff, Treasurer

The Department is in the process of defining the legal description of the "Essential Duties" that are required to be an 830.1 P.C. Peace Officer in the City of Los Angeles. The two easiest to understand requirements are: You must possess a valid California Driver's License and you must be able to lawfully possess firearms. So, if an officer has his or her CDL revoked or they are convicted of a domestic violence violation, they will face the loss of their jobs because they can't perform the essential duties of a peace officer. They can't operate a police car or possess a firearm.

Now it gets complicated. The City Council, the Personnel Department and the Police Department are studying and researching the theory that the "Essential Duties" of a peace officer in Los Angeles include being able to work full field assignments without any medical

restrictions. This has come about because of the large number of officers off duty and restricted from working field assignments because of medical restrictions. At any time there are over 400 officers off due to sick, IOD, military leave, maternity, or FMLA. At the same time there are approximately 500 officers that are working restricted duty assignments, most of which provide medical restrictions that prevent the officer from working in the field.

With the current budget crisis resulting in a hiring and promotional freeze, some City managers have come up with the proposition that if they could replace light-duty personnel with full-duty officers, they could field up to 350 more officers without additional cost. What would happen to the 350 light-duty officers they replaced?

1. They would be encouraged to reha-

bilitate themselves and return to full-duty status;

2. Be told to apply for a disability pension with no opposition from the Department;

3. Be encouraged to transfer to a different City agency;

4. If the officer opted for none of the above, initiate a fitness hearing on the basis that officer can not perform the essential duties of a peace officer (full field duties).

One legal problem the Department faces is compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). If the Department makes accommodations for certain medical restrictions they must accommodate similar restrictions. They do not have to accommodate unreasonable restrictions. However, if the Department establishes a policy of zero light-duty positions, is it legal? Some Departments in California and throughout the country have no light-duty positions available. The basic premise is that an officer that becomes ill or injured has one year to return to full duty or they are pensioned off.

What about LAPD? Have they established a past practice of accommodating duty restrictions? Would the Department be precluded from implementing changes against existing employees and only be able to make changes for new hires? Only time and the lawyers for both sides will determine this. Some employees with obvious unreasonable restrictions are pushing the envelope and endangering the benefits for all of us. We are having medical restrictions that say the officer can't answer phones, can't wear a uniform, can't have contact with the public, can't have contact with

the Department, and/or can't work whenever the sun is set. I don't make this up. On the other hand, we have officers recovering from traffic accidents, surgeries, or life-threatening diseases. If you make exceptions for some, do you have to do so for all? It is complicated.

Now the Department has a devious plan to change the MUD (Maximum Uniform Deployment) agreement to require all administrative and detective personnel to work uniform field assignments once a DP. We have been told this is a tactic to ferret out officers who come up with medical excuses to get out of field duty. Be careful because the thought may be to replace those workers who can't perform the "essential duties." At the March delegates meeting, Chief Bratton stated, "I'm going after fraud and light-duty malingerers with a vengeance. There's no place for conscientious objectors on LAPD."

The issue of a shortage of officers in the field is real. There are no solutions that can't be solved with money, but there is no money. Some leaders in the City surmise that if a policy is imposed for no light-duty positions, a significant number of officers will become rehabilitated and return to full duty. But, that is pure speculation. The reality is that there is a workers' compensation and IOD crisis on LAPD and reforms are being sought. If we don't find reasonable solutions together, the reform issues may be placed on the ballot and the voters would easily take away our hard-fought benefits.

Be careful out there and God bless Ricardo Lizarraga for his ultimate sacrifice. The dangers lurk both on the streets and in benefit reforms. ♦

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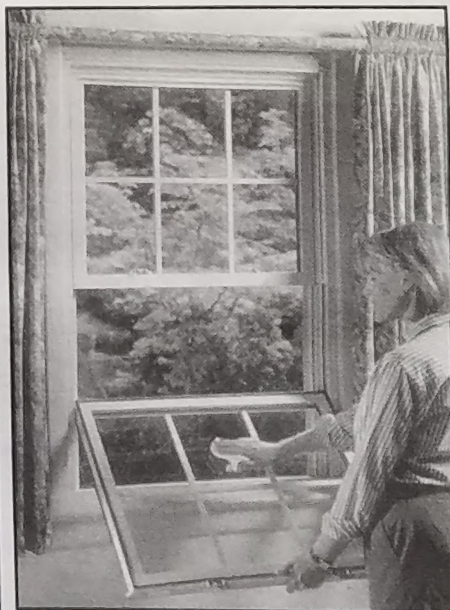
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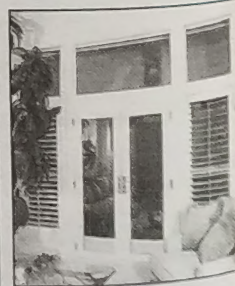
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THE ROAD TO SAFER STREETS IN LA REQUIRES CHANGE

Mitzi Grasso

Chief Bill Bratton is fond of saying we need to get illegal guns off the street and he is right. However, as street cops know, that is an uphill battle that likely will never be won. Good residents always follow the law and criminals will always be able to get guns.

Without getting knee deep into the philosophical debate over guns, let me just state the reality in Los Angeles: it is criminals who are wantonly killing, and it is guns they are using as tools to do so. Their murderous impulses might be slightly checked by the absence of guns, but their disregard for human life remains. The only true check on the ability of these thugs is a police officer that can arrest and remove them from society.

Unfortunately, at the same time willing killers have access to weapons, those very same cops who can stop them are in critically short supply. Not to be redundant—but as I have pointed out over the past several months, an ill-conceived consent decree has removed over 250 officers who could stem the tide of blood and misery from our ranks and communities, reducing them to reviewing statistics and how they are gathered. I also need to mention the all-consuming effort put forth by our frontline supervisors in their attempt to keep up with a continual stream of "kickbacks" generat-

ed by one of four different audit groups. I would be willing to debate anyone, at any time or place, who will try to argue that Los Angeles is a safer place because these approximately 250 officers are reviewing other cop's reports rather than doing law enforcement activity and generating their own reports.

Do more cops on the street lead to a safer community? Ask Chief Earl Paysinger. He recently put together the type of enforcement action necessary to fight crime - he saturated a known problem spot with hundreds of officers and detectives booking suspects for every crime, initiating search warrants on gang members and parolees and taking back the neighborhoods so the many law abiding citizens can live in peace. Chief Paysinger is using a mixture of good old fashion law enforcement, community involvement and crime prevention to make his Bureau safer.

It is a fact that less cops on the street leads to less ability to cover other officers as they respond to calls for service. There will surely come a time when a supervisor in the field, responding to a critical incident call, will look around at the scarce number of officers he can assemble, and wish he had more resources. Do you think he would be happy to know over 250 capable officers, who could have been on scene, are instead closeted in some office

reviewing statistics. It begs the question for the Independent Monitor and the city - what is more important to you, how the police work is done, or that the police work is done?

The idiocy of the consent decree does not stop with the removal of able-bodied police from the street. Those officers left are inundated in the minutiae of reporting their work, not doing it. Today, for example, officers across the city are beginning to use PODDS, when completing Field Data Reports (FDRs). *(To digress slightly, instead of purchasing and adopting commercially available devices that are more sophisticated, such as Palm Pilots or Blackberries, the city has purchased a custom designed gadget the size of a parking meter. It only gets better, as the City still cannot decide how to analyze the data these super-sized devices will gather. In addition, at the recent demonstration in City Hall, the Department representatives were unable to even get these devices to work.)* The point, however, is that whatever the device is, the aim is the same. Officers need to document their every movement, especially if it involves contact with the public.

Since our jobs by definition require constant public contact that means we spend as much or more time documenting than actually doing police work. For example, a completed Field Data Report is required after every detention. That means that officers are wasting time that could be used for law enforcement. As of today, no one has been able to logically explain why officers are compelled to complete FDR's on non-initiated activity like radio calls. This process has become so far-fetched from the original intent that now the expectation is if officers respond to a Code 30 and a cleaning crew is there, they must com-

plete an FDR if they detain the cleaning crew. Someday, a sideways glance at a suspect vehicle may require documentation and explanation!

Their theory behind data collection might be simple. Find out who the police are stopping and you can determine whether law enforcement reflects patterns of racial bias. But the collectors of data of human activity forgot one important point - it is interpretation of data that matters, not simply collection. The League has maintained for several years that there is no established methodology for analyzing racial profiling data. Without an established benchmark by which to measure this data, and given the complicated calculations of the many variables required to interpret this data, it is difficult, if not impossible, to assess the data fairly. Given that Los Angeles is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the country - it is impossible to analyze the data on race and traffic stops. Our criminal courts, in evaluating the sufficiency of probable cause, routinely look at the experience of an officer in determining the reasonableness of his actions. What a veteran officer can articulate as suspicious, based on his years of training and experience, might pass by unnoticed by a less experienced officer. I don't believe there is presently a computer program that can calculate those human factors.

I don't believe anyone will ever be able to prove with a large data set of any kind a systemic problem with racial profiling. However, in its efforts to document "why" officers do what they do, we have drained the pool of fieldable officers in an effort to assemble statistics for such a task. It is unconscionable to find that the bulk of the auditing

continued on page 19

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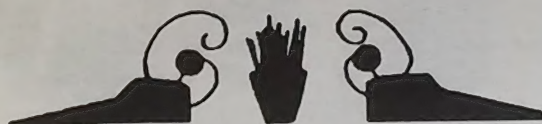
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HAVE A NICE DAY OFF- JUST DON'T TAKE YOUR GUN

Corina Lee

Southern California offers a number of amusement opportunities for local residents to enjoy on their own or with their families. Whether you enjoy spending a day at Disneyland, catching a sporting event at the Staples Center, Dodger Stadium or other sporting venues, all are just a short drive away.

But what many officers might not know is that many recreation destinations in Southern California **do not** allow off-duty police officers to carry concealed weapons, even though the law allows it.

To our knowledge, these venues do not ban accused or convicted criminals from visiting their premises—they only ban the police officers that may have arrested them from protecting themselves. It is very unfortunate that many entertainment establishments do not understand that for reasons of personal safety, in order to protect themselves and their loved ones, police officers often need to carry firearms off duty.

Unfortunately, many local attractions also do not recognize the fact that police officers are frequently finding that they, and/or their families, are the targets of vindictive criminals. A police officer may not remember the faces of all of the criminals he or she puts behind bars, but each one of those criminals *does* remember. While we have laws in the

state that give police officers the means to legally protect themselves and their loved ones where and when the criminal strikes, even while off duty, we are finding that many of our best known venues in Southern California do not care. Some have the technology to prevent such criminals from carrying concealed weapons onto their premises. Others don't.

It is interesting to note that while many local tourist attractions in Southern California don't allow off-duty officers to come to their venues armed, many offer special promotions for law enforcement and other public safety personnel that encourage them to come. For example, Universal Studios just completed a promotion in which firefighters, law enforcement officials, paramedics, Red Cross Employees and 911 personnel could receive two free annual passes by showing identification at the theme park's box office. Similarly, Disneyland offered complimentary three-day admission into Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure, plus special admission discounts for families and friends of public safety personnel, in the aftermath of the fall wildfires. Just make sure to leave your gun at home—while both parks want you there, they don't want your weapon.

To keep you informed about where

you can—and can't—take your weapon on your day off, we have compiled a brief summary of popular attractions and their policies regarding weapons carried by off-duty police officers. This information was gathered by speaking with security personnel or customer service representatives at each of the venues highlighted.

Staples Center: No weapons are allowed inside the Staples Center at any time. The venue also does not have any storage facilities or lockers available in the event that officers come to the door with weapons, so you are advised to leave the weapon locked in a safe manner in your car or at home. There have been instances in the past when off-duty officers have tried to bring their weapons into the Staples Center and have been refused entrance as long as they have their weapons with them, so you should not come to the door with your weapon.

Disneyland/Disney's California Adventure: Concealed weapons, even those carried by off-duty police officers, are not allowed in the parks. However, a customer service representative indicated that if an officer brings his or her weapon to one of the parks, you may ask to speak with a security officer and they will provide a safe storage place for your weapon while you are inside the parks.

Magic Mountain: Officers must be in uniform and on duty in order to carry a weapon at Magic Mountain. The park has metal detectors and bags are searched at the entrance. Lockers are provided for off-duty officers to store their weapons during their visit to the park.

Knott's Berry Farm: Off-duty officers are allowed to have their weapons with them while visiting Knott's. Officers are asked that when they are processed through security when they enter the park, they discreetly let the security personnel know that they are off-duty officers and have their weapons on them. You may be asked to provide your license to carry the gun and your badge as evidence of your ability to do so. Knott's requires that, in order to carry your weapon at the park, it must stay on your person at all times.

Universal Studios: While Universal Studios does not allow off-duty officers to bring their weapons into the park, you may go to the Sheriff's Substation when you arrive at the park and they will pro-

vide you with a locker to store your weapon. You will be given the only key to the locker to keep and to retrieve your weapon at the end of the day.

Sea World of California: You are permitted to bring your weapon into the park only if you have a picture ID that provides verification that you are an active peace officer. Simply showing your badge will not enable you to bring your weapon into the park—however if you have your picture ID, you will be allowed in with your weapon.

San Diego Zoo/Wild Animal Park: Officers are allowed to carry their weapons while visiting either park, however they are asked to carry it concealed at all times. They must also check in at the security office immediately upon entering the park (it is located next to the entrance) to provide verification of their status as a law enforcement officer by showing their badge and identification and informing the security staff that they have their weapon on them.

Legoland California: Legoland has a policy that does not allow firearms in the park. Prior to entering the park, you may meet with guest services and they will arrange for you to meet with a security supervisor to place your weapon in a special safe while you spend time at the park.

Dodger Stadium: Unless you are in uniform and working in a law enforcement capacity at Dodger Stadium, no weapons are allowed.

Angel Stadium: The stadium in Anaheim has the same policy as Dodger Stadium—police officers may not bring weapons in unless they are working in an official capacity.

The Pond: The Pond in Anaheim does not allow weapons of any kind, nor are you allowed to bring in any kind of backpacks or large bags. No off-duty weapons are allowed on site.

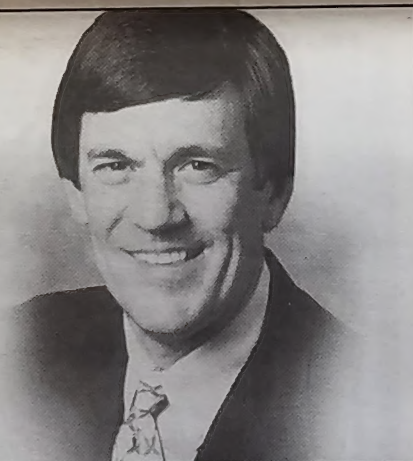
Law enforcement officers are a dedicated and trained body of professionals sworn to uphold the law and keep the peace. Unlike other professions, a police officer is rarely "off-duty." When there is a threat to the peace or public safety, the police officer is sworn to answer the call of duty. Officers who are at a sporting event or amusement park do not leave their instincts or training behind, but without their weapons, that knowledge and training is rendered virtually

continued on page 19

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CHANGES AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Luther Lutz

I just wanted to write a short article about the recent changes and some of the changes that are being proposed regarding workers' compensation. As the result of recent changes that have been enacted and the changes that have been proposed, how you will be treated regarding the medical treatment you will be provided as the result of your workers' compensation injury/claim is going to change. First I would like to put a disclaimer regarding this article by stating that I am not an attorney and my opinions are based on my understanding of the changes and the proposed changes as it has been explained to me. Once you get through reading about some of the changes that have been enacted and get over being upset about this not being right, just wait until you learn about some of the changes that are being discussed that may be implemented. One of the items Governor Schwarzenegger has made a top priority is workers' compensation reform. Unless there is some kind of bill on the Governor's desk by the end of March, he has indicated that he will put an initiative on the November Ballot to reform workers' compensation. Would such an initiative pass? Of course it would. Who is not against reforming workers' compensation and preventing the abuses that will be cited as examples of how the system has gone astray. As you know there are always

horror stories that can be cited, but they are usually the exception to the rule and are examples of the system gone awry. Granted these cases should be corrected, not the dismantling of the entire system.

The problem with workers' compensation reform is what is going to be changed and how will it impact you, especially if you already have a workers' compensation injury and have a settlement regarding lifetime medical. Secondly, how will you be impacted by any proposed workers' compensation reform should you sustain a work-related injury in the future.

In September 2003, Senate Bill 227 and Senate Bill 228 passed, which became effective on January 1, 2004. These bills created a utilization review for all medical treatment, regardless of the date of injury. All medical treatment recommended by the treating doctor is now subject to review by a "utilization review committee" created by the employer and their insurance carrier. If it is determined that any current or prospective treatment is not reasonable and necessary it will be denied, even if the employee has an award from the workers' compensation appeals board (WCAB) providing for future medical care. The decision by the third party administrator (Cambridge) would be presumed to be correct and would have to be appealed to the WCAB.

So what does all this gobbledy gook mean? Let's say your doctor determines that you need back surgery. If the insurance carrier objects to the surgery (for whatever reason), it would trigger the requirement that you be evaluated by an agreed medical examiner to resolve the dispute regarding your need for the surgery. This process could delay your surgery for at least three to four months. Meanwhile, you are burning up your IOD time, which gives you less time to recover following the surgery. Never mind the pain and discomfort that you are in while you are waiting for the surgery to be authorized. Or even worse, should the AME determine your surgery is not necessary, you would file an appeal and go to a WCAB Hearing to resolve this issue, which could take several months.

Another way you will be impacted is by the number of physical therapy appointments and chiropractic visits you are authorized. For injuries sustained after January 1, 2004, you will be limited to 24 sessions for each, over the lifetime of the injury. Again what does this mean? For those that have sustained injuries, you know that the first step in the process is not always surgery. Let's say that you sustain an injury and the doctor prescribes physical therapy as a method of avoiding surgery. After 15 or 20 physical therapy appointments your condition does not improve and it is determined you need surgery. Guess what? Following your surgery you could be limited to the number of visits that you have remaining out of the 24 visits that you are entitled to.

Vocational rehabilitation was also eliminated. You may be asking yourself what is vocational rehabilitation. Let's say you sustain an injury and as a result you receive a disability pension. If this occurred, you were eligible for vocational rehabilitation to be retrained into

another profession so that you could still enjoy some type of gainful employment and be productive. Instead of vocational rehabilitation training you will receive a supplemental job displacement benefit, which ranges from \$4,000 to \$10,000 (I have not had anyone explain to me yet what or how exactly this works or what it means).

Some of the reforms that are being discussed as means to reduce workers' compensation costs and reduce fraud are the elimination of the employees right to choose a treating doctor. The right to change doctors without the employer's permission would also be eliminated. Permanent disability would be redefined from the inability to compete in the open labor market to the inability to perform a job. Which means, if you are able to return to work there is no disability even though you are not capable of returning to your usual and customary duties. Thus, if you cannot work the field because of your medical restrictions you would not be entitled to a workers' compensation award since you are working, even though it is a restricted duty assignment at the desk or some other type of administrative assignment.

The Police Protective League is involved in meetings with the City, members of the State Legislature and various other law enforcement associations to do what it can to ensure any proposed reforms to workers' compensation do not penalize law enforcement personnel that sustain work-related injuries. The cost of workers' compensation has to be controlled and the misuse and fraud has to be eliminated, but not to the detriment of the men and women of law enforcement that are injured while fulfilling their responsibilities to the public.

If you have any questions, call me or any of the other Directors at the League, at (213) 251-4554.

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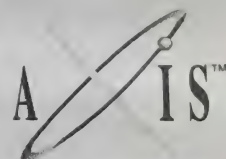
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COUNCIL ACTS TO STEM VIOLENCE AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS

Peter Repovich

Almost every month this past year, we have heard the reports of new casualties in the fight for freedom – another assault, another injury. The LAPD has experienced an outrageous increase in the number of attacks on police officers, with 42 officers the targets of brazen shooters during 2003.

And the ultimate sacrifice was paid by one of our officers, **Ricardo Lizarraga**, on Friday, February 20, when he was shot and killed by a suspect in a domestic violence case. We honor his dedication to duty and his commitment to protect and serve.

A few of the attacks on LAPD officers drew media attention, but most remained faceless and nameless, just another statistic to add to the growing total of assaults on officers every year. Sadly, it has gotten to the point where we seem to take these attacks on police officers for granted.

Unfortunately, when officers die in the course of their duty protecting the residents of Los Angeles, the media and many organizations that are so vociferous in circumstances when officers' actions are questioned are often silent about that officer's fate and the circumstances that caused it. It is unconscionable that we would show such a lack of respect for human life.

When police officers adorn their uniforms with the badge of their depart-

ments for the first time, they not only are accepting the responsibility of protecting the residents of their communities, but they are also accepting the reality that at any moment – today, in an hour, next month – they may face injury or death in the course of their job of protecting the public.

Last year, our nation lost nearly 150 federal, state and local law officers in the line of duty. Another 60,000 officers were assaulted and about 20,000 of those assaults resulted in injury. This marks 54 consecutive years that more than 100 law enforcement officers have been killed in the performance of duty. During the last 10 years alone, more than 1,600 officers have died.

We all understand that this is a part of being a police officer. But no one expects to be the target of wayward sharpshooters who purposely attack police officers almost as a sport. This should not be an added variable of our job.

But, for now, it is a reality here in Los Angeles. Now that we know this is a situation we must deal with, the question becomes, "How do we prevent and solve these unprovoked attacks on officers?"

Organizations like the Police Protective League, the Department and the local faith community have made attempts to prevent these attacks by appealing to the community with stories

about the attacks and assuring them that their identities would remain anonymous if they wished to report details about who is responsible for these attacks.

But even these appeals from leaders within the community have had little or no effect on those that may have the answers as to the identities of the shooters. To help the process further, in January, members of the City Council's Public Safety Committee proposed increasing the reward from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of those who commit crimes. Further, they proposed increasing the reward for information on crimes against police officers, criminal justice personnel and witnesses to \$75,000. Martin Ludlow and Janice Hahn presented the motion; Cindy Miscikowski seconded it.

It's a sad commentary on our community that it takes money to motivate people to participate in the public safety process. We would hope that everyone would want to be a part of the effort to combat crime, although it does not seem that this is the case. However, I commend Councilmembers Ludlow, Hahn and Miscikowski for being proactive about addressing this issue and trying to think of creative solutions to stop the attacks on police officers.

I know during the last month you have heard a lot about this issue, particularly in light of the murder of Officer Lizarraga. But it is just too painful when we have to lay to rest one of our own. If talking – in the community, at Council, before the Police Commission, in church – is what it takes to raise awareness about the problem, I know many in the city who are willing to talk until they are blue in the face. We cannot continue to be held hostage by the gang members



Proud Parents: Peter and Vicki Repovich
Baby Name: Tiffany Lauren Repovich
Born: Thursday, February 12, 2004,
at 6:23 p.m.
Weight: 8 pounds, 9 ounces
Length: 21 1/2 inches long

who have taken over our neighborhoods and now want to take over our city.

In honor of Officer Lizarraga and others who have come close to injury at the hands of these attackers, we must press on and fight the crime that threatens to take over our city. Working in tandem with our fellow officers, the leaders of our city and the community, we will find out who is responsible for these unprovoked attacks on police and bring a stop to them. Our jobs are dangerous enough without worrying about ducking bullets from neighborhood shooters. We must stop this before another officer – or, worse, a young child or member of the community – is caught in the sight of a gang member and killed.



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LET'S ROLL

Paul M. Weber

TWO HEROES IN THE CITY OF ANGELS:

Police Officers **Ricardo Lizarraga** and **Joel Ruiz**, assigned to Unit 13A93, made contact with a citizen requesting help, in the area of Western and Vernon Avenue.

The female directed the officers to her residence located at 1743 W. 48th Street. She requested that the officers escort her to her apartment where her boyfriend, Kenrick Johnson, was refusing to leave. They followed her to her residence, which was a small apartment and they encountered Johnson. As the officers were attempting to search him, he broke away and ran a few steps to a nearby bedroom, followed by Officer Lizarraga. Officer Ruiz moving toward his partner heard Lizarraga yell from the bedroom that Johnson was armed. Officers Ruiz and Lizarraga, without cover and no good options, redeployed outside the apartment. Johnson fired six rounds and missed Lizarraga. The investigation indicates that Officer Lizarraga was shot once in the back while he was on the second floor landing located in front of the apartment. Officer Lizarraga went down the stairs, and when he reached the bottom it appears that the suspect fired at him a second time, striking him on his side. Though wounded, Officer Lizarraga was able to return fire, firing two rounds at Johnson. Officer Ruiz attempted to remove his wounded partner from the line of fire and repositioned himself, firing four rounds at Johnson. Johnson was not struck by the gunfire and ran southbound through a rear alley.

Officer Ruiz requested help and it came by the hundreds! LAPD, LAFD, LASO, CHP, DEA, probation and other agencies moved in to help.

Officer Lizarraga was transported to Cedars Sinai Medical Center, where despite heroic efforts to save him, he died as a result of his gunshot wounds. He left behind his beloved wife, family, and over 9,200 grieving brothers and sisters.

While officers kept a tight outer perimeter, SWAT and canine officers searched and located Johnson cowering in an abandoned vehicle in an alley a few blocks away. Johnson was a known gang member and was on parole. He was arrested for 187(A) P.C. Murder. He later saved the taxpayers of Los Angeles hard-earned money and committed suicide while in county jail.

Officer Lizarraga became the 195th LAPD officer to die in the line of duty since 1907, the first to be murdered on duty since 1998 and the first in Newton Area since 1945. He died giving true meaning to our motto, "To Protect and To Serve."

Although we suffer greatly from our loss, we are very grateful that Officer Joel Ruiz survived. In the finest tradition of this great Department he never wavered in the face of death. Officer Ruiz, while protecting his mortally wounded partner engaged the suspect. **He is a Hero!**

Crime and Politics:

Within hours we had another officer shot, and gratefully, he was not serious-

ly wounded. However, this points out what officers and the League have been saying for years. We don't have enough officers to police this City!

When will the citizens stop watching the carnage on television and secretly sigh in relief it was not them or someone near and dear to them? Where is the pressure to make public safety number one? If they demand it and would not take no for an answer, the city leaders will make it happen.

The primary duty the council and the mayor have is to protect its citizens. Everything else pales in comparison. When will they have the courage to do what is needed?

Although I know we face a serious fiscal situation, the citizens of Los Angeles deserve safe streets. We can raise the money by implementing a garbage collection fee. The sanitation department can collect its refuse while an expanded police department arrests its.

Please call and write the mayor and city council demanding they make your safety the City's number one priority.

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jhahn@mayor.lacity.org
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Councilmember Janice Hahn - 15th District
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Thin Blue Line News:

Retired Police Officer **Loyd Yandle** who was a writer for the Inland Blue Line Association to the TBL, and its President for many years, passed away on February 28, 2004. In January, 2004, he was honored by the Board of Directors at an Inland Blue Line Association meeting with a presentation of a plaque by Director Ted Hunt.

He will be remembered by all who knew him.

Lew Snow has been writing the LAPRAAC sports news report for 15 years. This will be his last month. He provided detailed entertaining coverage on the multiple sports in which our members excelled. Lew Snow insured through his words and deeds that the Department's rich and stellar sports history was never forgotten.

He was always a gentleman with a kind word for all. His contributions to this paper and our Department will be sorely missed. ❖

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A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law

League Prevents Public Defender From Interfering With "Brady" Settlement

In 2000, a large number of LAPD officers (85) and the League, as their union, brought a class action civil lawsuit against the city and former Chief Bernard Parks, challenging the legality of Chief Parks' "Brady letter" policy, under which some LAPD officers had been informed by letter "that, because of . . . previous or pending disciplinary action, [they] will immediately be reassigned to 'non-field related' or administrative duties." Chief Parks' rationale for developing and implementing this onerous policy was allegedly in response to the Brady doctrine, which requires the prosecutor to disclose material exculpatory or impeachment evidence to the accused in a criminal prosecution. (See *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)).

In our civil complaint, the League

alleged, among other things, that the Brady letter policy promulgated and implemented by Chief Parks deprived concerned LAPD officers of their constitutional right to procedural due process. The reassignments of these officers, which accompanied these Brady letters, resulted in reduced compensation in many cases due to the loss of the "patrol bonus" received for undertaking field uniformed duties. The officers who received these letters also suffered professional embarrassment, and loss of career opportunities because the letters also instructed the officers not to undertake any duties which may require contact with the general public, nor did it allow the officers to engage in any law enforcement activities. Lastly, Chief Parks also steadfastly refused to provide the concerned officers with any administrative appeal process for challenging the propriety of these letters and their career-shattering effects, all in violation of the officers' rights pursuant to the

state's Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights Act. (Government Code 3300 et seq.)

The League's views regarding Chief Parks' Brady letter policy was partially supported by a finding by the Police Commission's Rampart Independent Review Panel. In its report issued on November 17, 2000, the Rampart Review Panel specifically found:

"First, a review of the circumstances leading to the letters issued thus far indicates an arbitrary and inconsistent use of the letters and a fundamental misunderstanding of the Brady doctrine. Further, in some instances, the Department sent out letters for offenses reaching far back in the officer's career. The net effect of the Department's use of Brady Letters has been the perception that they are used as an unfair and arbitrary means for imposing punishment that is not subject to review." (SAC, pg3, lines 16-23)

After many months of intense litigation, the parties involved reached a tentative settlement agreement, which was submitted to the U.S. District Court for approval. Out of the clear blue, and much to the parties surprise, Los Angeles County Public Defender Michael P. Judge submitted a letter dated February 25, 2004, to the court, objecting to the proposed settlement agreement. (Although on reflection, it should not be a surprise to see the Public Defender defending the "Brady letters" policy of former Chief Parks!) The essence of Public Defender Judge's objections stemmed from his very unwarranted concern that the settlement agreement accepted by the parties to resolve the litigation was somehow going to impair the ability of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to comply with its duties under the Brady case.

The League took an aggressive position and argued to the federal court that Mr. Judge's concerns were both unjustified and without merit. We are very pleased to report that on March 4, 2004, U.S. District Court Judge Howard Matz approved the settlement after a hearing. Judge Matz rejected the "Johnny come lately" opposition of the Public Defender by finding that the Public Defender had failed to establish "a clear and convincing" basis for why the settlement agreement was not in the public interest.

Under the settlement agreement, Brady letters in concerned officers' files will be replaced by generic duty-restriction notices that do not describe the alleged infraction or other work history. Officers will be able to appeal their duty restrictions and reassignments to the Department's Risk Management Committee, which oversees risk management issues for the Department. The settlement also provided monetary compensation to the class members and reimbursement for attorneys fees. We at the League are in the process of implementing procedures to assist officers who wish to appeal their duty restrictions and reassignments pursuant to the settlement agreement.

Our heartfelt congratulations to all our panel attorneys at the law firm of Silver, Hadden & Silver for the outstanding job they did in representing the League and its members in this very significant litigation, particularly to Elizabeth Tourgeman for her very persuasive arguments in front of Judge Matz, which undoubtedly prevented the Public Defender from interfering with the final Brady settlement in this case.

Be safe and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

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by Gary Ingemunson, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee"

—John Donne

The Long Journey of Officer Shooter

Part 5-The CIID Interview

[Review of Part 4. Officer Shooter has been through the walk-through and has been sitting at the station in the captain's office in the company of Sergeant Babysitter. He is concerned that the suspect he has shot is a juvenile and that the gun he believed the suspect was pulling out of his waistband has not been found. The CIID interview was just starting. Officer Shooter had been on duty for over twenty-four hours and has been continuously awake for twenty-eight.]

The Interview

The investigator had just asked me for my unit designation and was looking at me expectantly with his pen poised over a form. My mind was blank. I was embarrassed. I fumbled for my officer's field notebook to stall while I tried to bring that most basic of information back. It didn't come. Fortunately, I had written it down in my notebook during roll call. I read it to him.

"Questions are going to get harder," he said. I could tell he was trying to make a joke to ease my mind. I laughed, sort of.

The questions off the form took several minutes. What was my birth date? What was my appointment date? How tall was I? How much did I weigh? What brand holster did I wear? What was the serial number of my weapon? What was the brand of my vest? What brand flashlight did I carry? It seemed to go on and on.

Then the tape recorders started and the interview was in progress. The investigator asked me if I wanted to give a voluntary statement. I did not. My representative had told me that the Chief of Police was entitled to a detailed account of what happened, but every one else in the world was not. A volun-

tary statement would waive any protections I had under state law that restricted the dissemination of my statements without due process of law.

The investigator then read me the Lybarger statement and ordered me to give him a statement. I read back a series of questions off the League wallet card and received the appropriate answers. The first question from the investigator was open and to the point, "Tell me what happened tonight," he said.

My representative interrupted and put on the record that I had been awake for more than twenty-eight hours and on duty for over twenty-four. He requested that the interview be put off until I could get some sleep. His tone told me that he knew the answer and was just making a record. I was ordered to continue with the interview.

I started off with my narrative and knew that I was rambling, but could not seem to help myself. I had clear mental images of some things with no memory of what happened between those images. I could assume what happened, but did not really remember. I included my assumptions in the narrative in order to keep from sounding an idiot. I gave my best interpretation of what had happened. In some places, it was almost my best guess. The investigator sat patiently and waited until I had finished. We then started over from the beginning.

Why had I pulled the suspect over? A traffic violation? It seemed so far away now. What specific violation? I thought back. I remembered a rolling stop sign, or was that the previous traffic stop? I thought it was the stop sign, but maybe not. I knew there had to be some reason because I don't stop someone just to chat. It must be the stop sign, I thought. "Stop sign," I said, "the vehicle rolled through a stop sign." Again, another best guess.

It went on like that. The questions asked for incredible detail. How I held

my weapon. Which hand I used for this, for that, for the other thing. Some of the questions, I could not answer. I did the best I could, but I just wanted to get it over with and go home and sleep.

I was troubled by the fact that I could not describe in detail the actions that made me think that the suspect was going for a gun. I knew I thought that, but when pressed for detail after detail on what I saw, I was lacking. I knew I was sounding confused and I was afraid that I was sounding evasive.

"Why did you shoot?" The main question came at last.

I still could not recall specifically making any decision to shoot. I think I was as surprised as the suspect when I heard gunshots. But it was obvious that I did shoot.

"Because I was in fear of my life," I said, "I believed the suspect was drawing a weapon and was going to kill me." I believed it. Would anyone else?

Perspective of a Roll-Out District Attorney

Deputy District Attorney Richard Doyle has spent a large part of his adult life in law enforcement. Even while going through law school, he spent time as a sheriff's employee in San Francisco providing administrative hearings to inmates in the jail system. Then he joined the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office in 1986. He worked a unit specializing in sex crimes, domestic violence, and child abuse in Compton and eventually rose to the position of head deputy. He followed this with a tour as deputy in charge of the District Attorney's Juvenile offices. Then he was appointed as the assistant head district attorney in charge of the airport court. After that, he promoted to the special

assistant to the Assistant District Attorney and finally arrived at the position that makes his story relevant to this series of articles, head of the Justice System Integrity Division, known as JSID. It is the JSID deputy district attorneys that respond to officer-involved-shootings and in-custody-deaths.

LAPD doesn't have a lock on acronyms. The roll out program is called DART. (District Attorney Response Team) There are a dozen or so deputy district attorneys who are assigned to an A team or a B team for alternating weeks. They are on call twenty-four hours a day for that week to roll out on officer-involved-shootings with a hit and in-custody-deaths. This is for all the cities in Los Angeles County, except Compton. DART was created by Steve Cooley when he was elected as the District Attorney of Los Angeles County in 2001.

Cooley created DART with three purposes in mind. First, he wanted to establish knowledge among members of the law enforcement community that there was oversight of law enforcement activities. Second, he wanted to develop public confidence in the investigation of law enforcement uses of force. Third, he wanted to enhance the District Attorney's Office's ability to correctly judge what had happened at the scene of uses of force by actually being there on scene.

The DART DDA's day begins when the agency notifies the DA command post that an officer-involved-shooting has occurred. The command post calls the deputy district attorney who is on call, a district attorney investigator, and the investigator's supervisor. The DDA

continued on page 30



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A Message From Chief Bratton

I know that you have continually heard the term "reorganization" over the last 16 months, but for organizations that want to remain current, timely, and competitive in an ever-changing environment, flexibility and change are inevitable and out of necessity, constant. For our Department, the current environment is one of decreased resources in the wake of the state's budget crisis, a public that we continue to work with to build trust and a criminal element that is resisting our more focused and assertive style of policing.

There are some referendums being proposed for the November ballot that would provide a permanent source of funding for public safety. One, created by Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, would initially generate approximately \$165 million dollars for the LAPD by increasing the county sales tax by one-half percent, enough money to hire 1,800 officers. While that sounds great, the simple truth is we would not be able to significantly increase our Department's strength and add officers for at least one to two years after that referendum

passes, if it passes. This would be needed to recruit and train these officers.

Despite the current resource limitations, we cannot be satisfied with just holding the line and maintaining the status quo. Therefore, we must further refine and adjust the organization to run at peak efficiency, address issues of officer safety, and meet our crime reduction goals for the year. By maximizing our potential, we show the people and the politicians of this city that when given more resources we will use them wisely. We also enhance the image of our Department by showing the public that we are capable of learning from our past mistakes.

To reach our stated goals of a 20 percent reduction in Part 1 crimes, a 20 percent reduction in homicides, a reduction in response time to eight minutes citywide, an increase of our clearance rate to 25 percent and improved officer safety, the command staff and I have identified ways to make the Department operate more efficiently. It will require change, but the changes are designed to get more officers out on

the streets. The bottom line, if we want to continue the momentum and continue to reduce crime, we need more bodies in blue out on the streets. To do that we will be reducing, eliminating, and streamlining several organizational entities.

Both DARE and the Narcotics Information Network Unit will be dissolved. The duties of the Recruitment Background Screening Unit will now become a responsibility of the City Personnel Department. Additionally, officers assigned to the Mounted Unit will divide their time between the horses and deploying in vehicles.

Several other changes will directly improve operational efficiency as it relates to patrol and ultimately to officer safety. First, we will be expanding the Reserve Officer Program. Reserves are a cost efficient way to build the Department's administrative support and operational strength. There is also now a plan to retrain and assign sworn administrative personnel to patrol positions for two days each deployment period. We will work to improve recruitment by increasing our efforts with the Magnet School, Student Intern, Explorer, and Cadet Programs. Our goal is to establish a pipeline to the Academy of the most qualified applicants available. This will put us ahead of the curve when large numbers of personnel retire around the same time. Another change will be the review of all injury-on-duty cases and the I.O.D. system that is currently in place. We need to find out how many personnel who are on I.O.D. status can be returned to patrol duties. Hopefully, with the focus on officer safety, the end result will yield fewer officer injuries and fewer I.O.D. claims, and more officers available for patrol and enhanced officer safety.

To work smarter and to bring the Department into the 21st century, the command staff and I will be working to obtain and implement newer technologies to help officers be more efficient and productive. The savings in time and the increased productivity that technology purchases provide invariably pay for the initial expense. It's smarter policing and for the average officer a more stimulating and satisfying way to work, minimizing paperwork and increasing time in the field. We

are looking to replace the aging MDTs in the patrol cars. We are close to finding a source of funding for the CopLink technology that will dramatically improve our crime reduction efforts. It will help us to substantially reduce the number of detective-hours needed to investigate crimes. As a result of the Consent Decree, the Personal Data Assistants or PDAs will soon be in use to assist in the collection of traffic stop data, eliminating the hundreds of thousands of paper forms that you currently complete. The Department was recently given Blackberry communication devices for all Senior Lead Officers through a donation to the Police Foundation by Cingular Wireless. The Blackberries provide cellular phone and e-mail technology. We will continue to work with the Foundation to secure additional technologies and replace aging systems, ensuring that officers will have state-of-the-art equipment and support.

I will also be looking at the way we do things and why. Yesterday's policies and practices may no longer meet today's critical needs. That is why I have gone to bat over issues like the burglar alarm policy, the vehicle pursuit policy, and the priority Code-3 call changes. We must continually refine our tactics, procedures, and policies for the sake of efficiency, officer safety, and to protect the public.

I am asking a lot of you, but I have no doubt that you, the men and women of this Department, will deliver. If we give our maximum effort, with minimum resources, we will make the strongest case for additional support. As additional support becomes available, also be assured that the issue of promotions will be addressed. Keeping you motivated and your morale high is also one of my top priorities. As we continue to become a more efficient and dynamic Department, we will also ultimately win the support of the many diverse communities that make up the city of Los Angeles. ♦

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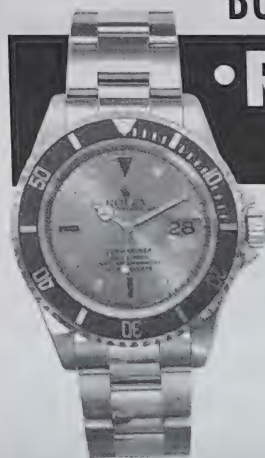
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Letters must be limited to 350 words or less. Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



Joey, age 5 and Sam, age 8.

Dear Los Angeles Police Protective League,

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Fifth Annual Sergeant Andy Voge Memorial Golf Tournament. Your gift not only maintains Andy's legacy, but ensures a full education and promising future for Sam and Joey. We are grateful for the compassion you have shown our family.

It was great seeing you at the Tournament!

With Love,
Sam, Joey and Lisa

An Open Letter to all who have been Touched by the Loss of Newton Area Police Officer Ricardo Lizarraga

As the newest member of the Newton Area Police Family, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and heartfelt gratitude for the tremendous outpouring of sympathy, compassion and countless acts of kindness and generosity that have been bestowed upon the Lizarraga family, Officer Joel Ruiz, a grieving Newton Area and Department, and the community we serve. Your expressions of support in telephone calls, flowers, letters of condolence and monetary contributions have been overwhelming and a great source of comfort and solace. The loss of Officer Ricardo Lizarraga is gut-wrenching, not only because the death of such a fine young officer diminishes us all, but because his loss has left a cavernous void which will long be felt by those who knew him. Ricky Lizarraga, who was known as a "gentle giant" and a loyal, dependable friend and partner, will

be sorely missed here at Newton Area.

As an illustration of Officer Lizarraga's outstanding work ethic, I would like to share with you part of a commendation from Robbery-Homicide Division, written in January but not received until two days after his untimely death. Although I am not able to present this commendation to Officer Lizarraga, it is truly indicative of this young officer's willingness to serve. The commendation praises Officer Lizarraga and his partner, Joel Ruiz, for their outstanding proactive arrest of a serial bank robbery suspect. Their effort in removing this predator from the streets is a testament to their initiative, keen attention to duty, and proactive actions. The commendation goes on to aptly state that these officers exemplify the exceptional caliber of personnel who comprise the Los Angeles Police Department. This is just one example of the character of this man who was so tragically taken from our midst.

The date of February 20, 2004, will be indelibly etched in the memories of not only the Lizarraga family, but in those who knew Ricky and in those who are tasked with the same job and wear the same uniform, be it blue, black or tan. I know that Newton personnel will never forget Ricky. His legacy of service and commitment to excellence will be honored each day by Newton officers, Department personnel and the entire law enforcement community.

Very truly yours,
William J. Bratton
Chief of Police

Sean K. Kane, Captain
Area Commanding Officer
Newton Community Police Station

February 24, 2004
Officer Ricardo Lizarraga
C/O Cliff Ruff, LAPPL
1308 West Eighth Street, 4th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Lizarraga Family:
Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$500 in remembrance of Officer Ricardo Lizarraga.

May this donation signify our sadness in the loss of a fellow officer. On behalf of the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, I would like to express my sincere condolences and support to you, the entire Lizarraga family and his fellow officers.

If you have any questions in regard to this donation, please feel free to contact our office at the telephone number printed below.

Sincerely,
Jon H. Hamm
Chief Executive Officer
California Association of Highway Patrolmen (916) 452-6751

Subject: Officer Needs Help Follow-up

In October, you graciously printed my request of financial support for my friend Shannon Yada of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Shannon was battling melanoma and was forced into an early medical retirement which necessitated him supplementing his medical coverage to the tune of over \$600 per month. Many kind responses and support were received.

Shannon fought a valiant fight against the enemy of melanoma. However, on Friday, February 6, with his beloved wife lying in his arms, Shannon went home to spend eternity with the One He Loved and the One who loved him. I want to thank everyone who prayed and contributed to his family. His memorial service was truly top notch as would be befitting a Las Vegas SWAT officer.

Please do not ignore any variations in the shape, color, or size of any moles. Something as simple as a mole on his back ended up defeating a power-lifter and one of the healthiest, kindest men I have ever known. Do yourself and your family a favor and see a reputable dermatologist on a regular basis.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Lynda A. Putz, #22963

continued on page 29

END OF WATCH



NAME: Martin Yturralde, Jr. #6632
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Metro
BORN: April 18, 1927
APPOINTED: February 1, 1950
RETIRED: June 30, 1978
DIED: November 18, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Richard J. Borland #7679
RANK: Police Officer III
ASSIGNED TO: Wilshire
BORN: February 20, 1932
APPOINTED: October 1, 1956
RETIRED: June 5, 1982
DIED: December 5, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Richard F. Knipp #3289
RANK: Investigator III
ASSIGNED TO: Pacific
BORN: August 15, 1921
APPOINTED: September 23, 1946
RETIRED: June 30, 1976
DIED: January 1, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Joseph F. Scanlon #7735
RANK: Detective II
ASSIGNED TO: Detective Headquarters Div.
BORN: May 27, 1928
APPOINTED: October 1, 1956
RETIRED: January 23, 1982
DIED: January 3, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: William J. Maraist #2781
RANK: Investigator III
ASSIGNED TO: Hollenbeck
BORN: April 17, 1913
APPOINTED: April 13, 1942
RETIRED: July 7, 1972
DIED: January 10, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Leonard A. Nerkins #4422
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: TED
BORN: May 15, 1921
APPOINTED: April 7, 1947
RETIRED: April 3, 1951
DIED: January 23, 2004

NAME: John J. Amott #16323
RANK: Sergeant I
ASSIGNED TO: VTD
BORN: June 12, 1943
APPOINTED: October 5, 1970
RETIRED: August 9, 2003
DIED: February 11, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Richard E. Schnieders #5031
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: RHD
BORN: No Birth Date Found
APPOINTED: October 16, 1947
RETIRED: December 1, 1969
DIED: February 13, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Raymond G. Dance #15182
RANK: Detective II
ASSIGNED TO: Hollenbeck
BORN: December 1, 1947
APPOINTED: June 15, 1969
RETIRED: November 21, 1990
DIED: February 17, 2004

★ ★ ★

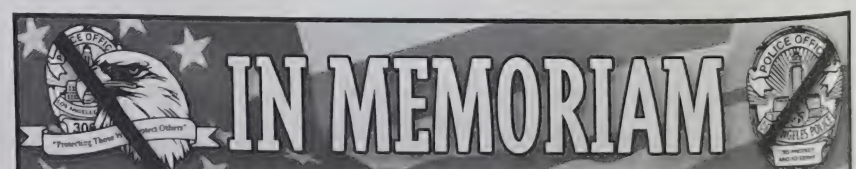
NAME: Ricardo Lizarraga #36046
RANK: Police Officer II
ASSIGNED TO: Newton
BORN: January 24, 1973
APPOINTED: September 25, 2001
ACTIVE:
DIED: February 20, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Loyd H. Yandle #6192
RANK: Detective I
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: January 30, 1918
APPOINTED: March 16, 1949
RETIRED: July 25, 1973
DIED: February 28, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Booth O. Shaw #10577
RANK: Lieutenant II
ASSIGNED TO: IHD
BORN: No Birth Date Found
APPOINTED: May 2, 1960
RETIRED: February 23, 1982
DIED: March 1, 2004



LAPD - In the Line of Duty

Name	Date of Death	Rank
D. BROOKS	04/08/10	Policeman
R. F. SHY	04/08/22	Detective Sergeant
R. MIOVER	04/11/25	Police Officer
L. LONG	04/18/29	Police Officer
P. MULLER	04/13/30	Policeman
PAUL DONATH	04/28/32	Policeman
F. G. PANER	04/14/47	Policeman
T. J. KENNEDY	04/05/51	Policeman
C. E. BOGARDUS	04/05/59	Policeman
CARL L. RIDDICK	04/23/70	Policeman
NORMAN D. ECKLES	04/20/89	Detective

Lee

continued from page 10

useless. We urge these law-enforcement unfriendly locations to revisit their policies. The fact is, without a weapon, the law enforcement officer is like a rescue diver without diving gear: all the right training and talent to lend a hand in an emergency situation, but without the equipment needed to make that training of any use.

All of us benefit from the expertise and presence of law enforcement officers, both during their on-duty and off-duty time. However, many local attractions would prefer that police officers leave their weapons at home when visiting. While we do not agree with this decision – and believe visiting officers

who are armed even in an unofficial capacity provide a great deal of protection at public locations – it is important that you respect the rules and established policies. If you are unsure as to the policy of a tourist attraction that you plan to visit, and you would feel uncomfortable leaving your weapon in storage for the day, please check in advance about the policy of the place you plan to visit and, if unsure, consider leaving your weapon secured in your vehicle or at home.

We are compiling anecdotal information about off-duty situations where officers needed their weapons but were forbidden to carry. If you have a story about being confronted by a criminal at one of these attractions, we would like to hear from you. Please send your story to blueline@lappl.org

Out of State – Concealed Carry Rules

According to the California Highway Patrol Officers Network (www.chp.net), if you are visiting outside of California, you should know that only the following states allow both on and off-duty concealed carry:

Connecticut	New Hampshire	Montana	Michigan
Illinois	North Dakota	Idaho	Indiana
Indiana	Ohio	Utah	Kentucky
Louisiana	Oklahoma	Arizona	Tennessee
Maryland	Oregon	Alaska	Vermont
Michigan	Texas	Oklahoma	
Minnesota	Virginia		
Missouri	Wyoming		
Montana			

All other states have some kind of

restriction on carrying concealed weapons, and you are advised, before traveling, that you contact that state's visitors' bureau or a local police agency for information as to whether or not you are allowed to bring your weapon into the state and to popular tourist attractions. In any event, it would be wise before you leave California that you ensure your license is honored in the state to which you will be traveling – sources indicate the following should honor California permits:

Grasso

continued from page 9

responsibility falls on the shoulders of the patrol function. Recently, at a Staff meeting, Bureau Chief Chaleff stated that there were approximately thirty officers conducting audits for the consent decree at this time. We have easily tripled that number of officers conducting audits for the consent decree at the geographic areas, as well as officers fulfilling audit functions in specialized units, Bureau audit teams, CIID and an entire division dedicated to conducting audits alone! Clearly our Department could use another 200 officers tomorrow! I have a simple solution. Instead of taking trained police officers out of the field, why not hire shift of workers to ride along and record each and every action of the officers they are with. This would have the double benefit of reducing the unemployment rate in Los Angeles, and freeing police officers to do police work. The mountain of documentation they collect would, in the end, serve as valid a purpose as the system currently created to analyze officer's activities. If that doesn't satisfy the Independent Monitor, we could go one step further and ban ALL discretionary police activity, on the grounds that we are just simply too untrustworthy to be allowed any discretion in whom we stop and arrest. Officers should not have to worry that doing police work – stopping, questioning and

arresting criminals – will result in the second-guessing culture that has emerged from the consent decree's scrutiny of use-of-force incidents. That the oversight is conducted by people who have not a clue of how to do police work, and probably have not been in a fight or angry incident since elementary school, only serves to make even more meaningless the conclusions and reviews they conduct regarding use-of-force incidents. Maybe when the monitors go out on ride-a-longs, we should stand back as they step up and show us how police work should be done.

What we need today in Los Angeles are more officers. These additional officers could be used in crime prevention roles as well as ensuring that we have an adequate number of personnel in the field doing traditional police work. Along with a greater number of officers, we need to infuse our system with a good dose of common sense. Although we need to acknowledge the tremendous liability associated with police work, our guiding factors have to be public safety and officer safety. We do need to get guns off the street, but more than ever we need to get the predators off the street and show them the LAPD and community leaders mean business.

The public does not know the reality of the LAPD today. Our residents would be outraged if they knew what the city and the police department were required to spend in time, money and resources in order to keep up with the consent

decree. Officers today spend an inordinate amount of time worrying about boxes that are not filled in, serial numbers that cannot be deciphered, what person was detained and did not have an FDR completed on them, what form was missing from the front desk, what watch commander failed to indicate what medical problem a suspect had and on and on. We need to worry about the fact that LAPD does not have enough officers to police the city and the demands placed upon us exceed our resources by leaps and bounds. We need to worry about the fact that neither the police and/or the good people of the community control the city, but that the criminals do. Police work is not rocket science; it should be a proactive, practicable response to an ever-expanding problem. Police work is most effective

when combined with the community and rooted in common sense.

Finally, some people have asked me why I am writing so much about the consent decree. My answer is simple. Although we at the League support the premise of the consent decree, I want to make the community understand and care. We need to let the community know that they are **not** getting what they paid for, that officers should be doing police work, not clerical work. We need our community church and civic leaders, our political representatives, as well as all residents in the city to challenge the applications of the consent decree that make it impossible for our officers to police the city. We need to let them know that the way to safer streets is by removing criminals from the streets, not just the guns they use.

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You can now get information to help reach your top physical condition. There's a valuable benefit to Los Angeles Police Relief Association (LAPRA) members who have chosen Blue Cross of California Prudent Buyer (PPO) as their health plan. If you're among that group and are the main subscriber, you're entitled to an annual comprehensive health and fitness evaluation at Centinela Hospital's Fitness Institute.*

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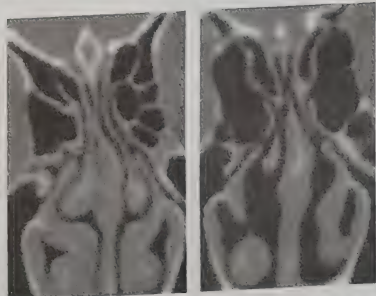
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POLITICAL FRONTLINE

LAPPL Legislative Report

by Timothy H. B. Yaryan - LAPPL Legislative Counsel and Advocate



Normally, March is a fairly quiet month at the Capitol, except, however, in presidential election years! There is a clear partisan tone now that shapes every single issue as each party struggles to gain political high ground on the other. Nowhere is this more evident than in the workers' comp area where both sides are quite visible in offering "system reform." To date, it's been mainly rhetoric, with the Governor threatening to introduce a workers' comp initiative for the November ballot if "significant reform is not enacted by March 1."

While legislative committees commence hearings on various workers' comp measures, the real deals are being cut behind the scenes. There are four major players in this arena—employers, labor, doctors, and trial lawyers—and each has a different interest. Add to that mix the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF), which controls over 60 percent of the market, and the conflicting interests of agents, brokers, and any SCIF insurers who want a bigger

piece of the action, and you can see the makings of a political donnybrook. Emerging from these conflicting interests is a powerful coalition of two major players who have traditionally been on opposite sides: labor and business.

While this may seem like a political "Jekyll and Hyde" marriage, it's really not! Employees have an interest in increasing disability benefits, which in California are currently at the nation's bottom 20 percent tier. Employers have an interest in reducing premiums, which currently are the highest in the nation. Meanwhile, the costs of physicians has risen to almost 17 percent of the entire \$12.3 billion workers' comp system, while defense costs and loss adjustment accounts for almost 15 percent of the system. In comparison, temporary disability payments account for just 14.2 percent of the overall costs while permanent disability payments are only about 14.5 percent. The doctors and lawyers take more from the system than all disability benefits combined!

Obviously, reforming the adjudicating process and containing the health-care service costs could significantly reduce employer premiums and permit added worker benefits. Hence, the labor/business workers' comp alliance was formed.

Because of the political visibility of

this issue, exaggerated even more by the political overlay of presidential politics, the "Big 5" has taken charge of this issue. (The "Big 5" are the Governor and the Democratic and Republican leadership from each house.) The "Big 5" don't hold public hearings, they just make decisions or "cut deals." A "matrix" of reform proposals has been put together, and in all likelihood a "deal" will be reached before the end of March. That appears to be the "real deadline." Failure to reach an agreement will mean that employers will not see a rate reduction for most of the year and that we will be headed for a nasty and expensive initiative campaign this fall!

There were a few surprises in the primary election, but mostly the results were predictable. The big winner on the Republican side was Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger who did a remarkable job of "selling" Propositions 57 and 58 to the voters. Only a month and a half ago, a mere 35 percent of the voters supported Proposition 57, yet it passed easily with over 60 percent of the vote on March 2nd. This win significantly strengthens the Governor's political hand, which will play out in the upcoming workers' comp and budget battles, and, perhaps, later in the senate and presidential races.

The big winner for the Democrats

was Senator John Kerry who will now get the Democratic presidential nomination by acclamation. The race this fall is shaping up to be a tight one, not unlike the last presidential election except, hopefully, this time there will be a few less chads left hanging! It will be interesting to see, given the popularity of the Governor, whether Republicans will decide to make a real effort to bring the presidential campaign to California as a Republican presidential win here would all but seal the election for President Bush. The current thinking is to "write off" California, but this Governor's now-proven popularity could have good coattails for the President.

Statewide, there were few surprises and the legislative makeup should not change significantly. League-backed candidates scored some key contested primary wins, including Audra Strickland in the 37th A.D., Karen Bass in the 47th A.D., Hector de la Torre in the 50th A.D., and Tom Umberg in the 69th A.D. District Attorney Steve Cooley also won handily. Unfortunately, Assemblymember Ken Maddox lost in his bid for the state senate.

Next column I will give you another update on workers' comp and discuss some of the key issues and bills affecting you in 2004.

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LAPPL City Hall Committee Chairman, Peter Repovich and LAPPL PAC Committee Chair, Ted Hunt.



PAC Delegates Michael Ventura, Adriana Sanchez, Kent Oderinlo, League Director Ted Hunt, Delegate Tyler Izen, League Director Peter Repovich, Delegates Steve Saletros, Gary Aspinall and Shannon Paulson.



PAC Committee Delegates with Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Chief William Bratton, Council President Alex Padilla and League Directors Peter Repovich and Ted Hunt.

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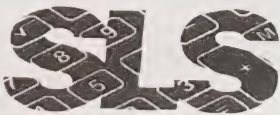
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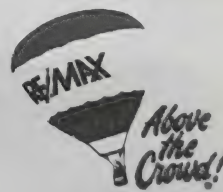


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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

"Use a Gun, Go to Prison" Should Not be Applied to Police

By Michael P. Stone, Esq.

Sentencing enhancement unfairly penalizes those who are sworn to protect and serve.

Law enforcement legislative advocacy is a little removed from our usual practice. However, I know enough about it so that when I see a rule or law which screams for amendment for justice's sake, I recognize it for what it is: a fertile ground upon which to spread the seeds of change.

This is not an issue we can afford to debate for years; neither can we be slow to recognize the need for quick legislative action. Peace officers are at risk—every day, everywhere, in every clime and place.

We have perhaps the first genuine course-and-scope peace officer in the state to endure the full weight of the enhancement under former *Penal Code* §12022.5(b)(1), for the authorized, but according to the jury, negligent discharge of a firearm, resulting in unintended injury and death during a tense, violent, highly volatile and risky encounter with occupants of a motor

vehicle.

Of course, we are speaking of Senior District Attorney's Investigator Daniel Riter, who was recently sentenced by Riverside County Superior Court Judge Charles W. Morgan to seven years in state prison, upon conviction of *Penal Code* §192(b)—involuntary manslaughter.

At sentencing, Judge Morgan dismissed our plea to invoke the "unusual circumstances" exception that would have permitted him to sentence this 33 year law enforcement veteran of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and the Riverside County District Attorney's office, to probation or a combination of local custody and other probation terms. But Judge Morgan found this case "does not qualify as an unusual circumstances case." Pray tell us, if not unusual, what is it? A routine criminal act committed by a person bent on doing evil and who used a handgun to kill someone? Hardly. Judge Morgan also rejected both sentencing recommendations, one by the County Probation Department, recommending probation because of Riter's extraordinary lifelong career of dedication to the community and public service, and the plain fact that Riter is not,

never has been, and never will be a criminal. Judge Morgan rejected the report outright. He ordered Riter into custody to be sent to CIM Chino. The second sentencing report, this one by the California Department of Corrections following Riter's 90-day state prison commitment to Chino for diagnostic study, came to the same conclusion—Riter does not belong in state prison, and presents little to no risk to the community if placed on probation.

Riter was returned to court on November 7, 2003. His counsel again invoked the court's discretion to place Riter on probation. But Judge Morgan was unpersuaded. "No, he will be punished," as if every moment of Riter's life since February 1, 2002, has not been punishment, as he ended an otherwise stellar career as a law enforcement officer, barred from further service to the community because he is, after all, a felon. So, the silver-haired, handsome, 56-year-old Senior Investigator with rock-solid Christian character and faith is going to state prison for seven years, as a result of a single involuntary (accidental) discharge which caused Mr. Jesse Herrera's death.

Many so-called "expert case watchers" and pundits thought that a good case could be made for justifiable homicide and self-defense, but that usually implies an intentional, or at least a voluntary discharge. That is not what happened—it was unintentional. It is as simple as that. And Riter wasn't about to try to fool someone into believing different facts and intent to get to a (perhaps) better result tactically. I accompanied Dan Riter on his D.A.-OIS walk-through at the scene shortly after the shooting. His reenactment and our reconstruction never varied from this fact pattern. Most people are aware that Riter, with backup "on the way," confronted three suspects in the pickup truck driven by Herrera. One of the others, Bradley, had just committed a felony assault and battery on Riter's person in an effort to keep Riter from taking two minor children from the truck, under the authority of child abduction warrants Riter had with him. Any tactics experts would agree, and it was undisputed at trial, that Riter was reasonable and justified in drawing his weapon as he approached the truck driven by Herrera, who was proven to be loaded on methamphetamine and was about to drive the truck away, despite Riter's orders to halt the truck—clearly heard by the occupants—as Bradley exhorted Herrera "Run him over! Kill him!"

In an instant, as Herrera revved the engine, Riter chose to shoot the front tires to disable the truck, to avoid the children's removal from his presence and to keep Herrera from running Riter over. The truck sped forward. Riter jumped and twisted out of the way, his pistol discharging unintentionally as the truck cab sped by within inches of Riter's body. We can debate the wisdom of Riter's millisecond choice to shoot the tires. But there is no debate that he was doing the best he could in a highly dangerous confrontation without any help. There is no debate that the death was the result of an unintended discharge.²

If this paper ended here, it would amount to, I suppose, nothing more than

a defense lawyer's lament about a result that seems horribly wrong. But the real purpose of this paper is much more worthy of consideration than that. We must resolve to see to it that no other law enforcement officer will meet a similar fate, arising out of an officer's good faith commitment to do his or her duty.

Why did Judge Morgan settle on the unreasonably harsh penalty of seven years in state prison for this case? Herein lies the point of this whole paper. First, Judge Morgan found "mitigating circumstances" to justify sentencing Riter to the low term of two years. But then, because the Attorney General also charged the enhancement, and the jury found it true, Morgan enhanced the sentence, adding on the additional five years. *Penal Code* §12022.5(b)(1) was one of several enhancing provisions passed by the legislature under the more commonly known "use a gun, go to prison" legislative agenda. The purpose of the legislation was to target street thugs, predators and gangsters—criminals who have no business possessing or using firearms to commit other crimes. Did anyone foresee that this enhancement would one day be applied to an on-duty, in course-and-scope, accidental discharge of a peace officer's firearm, under circumstances such as these? I cannot believe that.

Before sentencing, I researched the legislative history of these enhancement laws. It quickly became clear that they were prompted by the so-called "L.A. freeway shootings" and the more widespread phenomena in the gang world of the "drive-by" shooting. I drafted a brief for the court on the issue of whether the enhancement, given its legislative and public policy underpinnings, should be applied to this case. I attached the entire legislative history.

Of course, the Attorney General responded that the enhancement was mandatory. Judge Morgan said he could see no exception for the case of a peace officer like Riter. So, Judge Morgan applied the enhancement to lift Dan's two-year sentence to seven years.

The evil in all of this is that the enhancement should never be applied to an on-duty, course-and-scope shooting. The only proper application to a peace officer would be for a situation where an officer acts completely outside the legitimate law enforcement function, and without any apparent authority, uses a firearm in the commission of some other crime. Let us remember and mark well Riter was required not just privileged to carry and employ a firearm as an on-duty peace officer. The real targets of this legislation, criminal predators and gangsters, have no such requirement or privilege. The mere possession by these persons is a crime, standing alone. The laws are intended to discourage thugs from carrying and using firearms and engaging in indiscriminate firearm violence and to punish them severely when they do. I do not believe the bill's sponsors, the legislature, or governor thought that this amendment would result in something like this.³

I refuse to accept that it is too late to do something for Riter. The conviction and sentencing are on appeal.

continued on page 23

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Use a Gun, Go to Prison

continued from page 22

But I also believe that an organized and motivated law enforcement community, backed by the large community it serves throughout the state, can achieve legislative change to forbid the application of such enhancements in this way.

On behalf of Dan, his wife Shari, and his children, and all of the many people who supported him throughout his ordeal, as well as the men and women of law enforcement in California, I, together with my co-counsel Ira Salzman, Esq., and Muna Busailah, Esq., and the Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which has pledged to take up and lead this campaign to see the passage of urgency legislation to eliminate this wholly unforeseen application of the firearm enhancement, request your support. This is an "officer needs help" call. Association and Department leaders and interested individuals are urgently requested to write to Pat McNamara, President, Riverside Sheriffs' Association, a letter on your organization's letterhead in support of amendments to the Penal Code for situations where a peace officer, as defined in Penal Code §830, et. Seq., and who is on duty and authorized to

carry a firearm within the course and scope of employment, and while in the performance of official duties uses a firearm and subsequently becomes the focus of a criminal prosecution. (Pat McNamara, President, Riverside Sheriffs' Association, 6215 River Crest Drive, Suite A, Riverside, CA 92507; Telephone: (909) 653-1943; Fax: (909) 274-5540.)

Now we must look for a moment at exactly what needs to be changed.

Incredibly, the legislature acted to eliminate the enhancement specified in Penal Code §12022.5(b)(1) (see footnote 2 above), which was charged and applied in Dan's case. The enhancement was in force and effect on February 1, 2002, when the shooting occurred, and when Dan was indicted on September 30, 2002. But it was repealed by AB2173, signed by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on July 9, 2002, almost three months before the indictment. The repeal of §12022.5(b)(1) was effective January 1, 2003, six months before the trial started. Thus, by the time Dan was convicted of involuntary manslaughter and sentenced, the enhancement which added five years to his two-year sentence was repealed.

Did the legislature recognize in 2002

that the enhancement could be unfairly applied to peace officers in the line of duty? The legislative history of the amendment which repealed §12022.5(b)(1) certainly does not so indicate.

In fact, the expressed legislative intent of the amendment was to "recognize that the conduct punished under that provision is now subject to greater punishment under subdivision (a) of §12022.53 of the Penal Code." However, §12022.53 (2003) provides enhancements for use of a firearm in connection with felonies enumerated in that section. But look again, §192 (manslaughter, whether voluntary or involuntary) is not among the specified sections. Hence, it appears that in 2003 Dan was sentenced under an enhancement that had already been repealed, and not replaced to apply to involuntary manslaughter by §12022.53.

Well, sorry for Dan, but if §12022.5(b)(1) has been repealed, is there any other enhancement provision to worry about? Yes: §12022.5(a) requires an enhancement of three, four, or ten years for the personal use of a firearm in the commission of a felony or attempted felony. Another crime, which could be unfairly imposed upon an on-duty peace officer who discharges his weapon in the line of duty is Penal Code §246, which prescribes a three, five, or seven year sentence for a person who shall "maliciously and willfully discharge a firearm at an...occupied motor vehicle..."

Both of these sections may unfairly be applied to a peace officer who is authorized by law to possess a firearm in the line of duty. Dan's case is an extreme example, to be sure, of a peace officer who unintentionally discharged his duty weapon in

the line of duty and was caught in the teeth of enhancement that was designed to apply to street thugs, not peace officers. But the legislature needs to keep the state's peace officers in mind when it wields the big stick of legislation to get tough on violent crime, to make sure that anti-crime bills are not enacted in a way that permits them to be unreasonably applied to on-duty peace officers.

Your letter expressing outrage toward the results of Dan Riter's case will help. Please take the time to write. You owe it to yourself and to all of the men and women of California law enforcement.

Please stay out of harm's way!

1 Penal Code §192(b) states in pertinent part, "...in the commission of a lawful act which might produce death, in an unlawful manner, or without due caution and circumspection."

2 The indictment returned by the Grand Jury charged Dan with Penal Code §187 - Murder, for the shooting of Jesse Herrera. The jury rejected that charge and found Dan guilty of involuntary manslaughter.

3 Former Penal Code §12022.5(b)(1) reads, "Notwithstanding subdivision (a), any person who is convicted of a felony, or an attempt to commit a felony, including murder or attempted murder, in which that person discharged a firearm at an occupied motor vehicle which caused great bodily injury or death to the person of another, shall, upon conviction of that felony or attempted felony, in addition and consecutive to the sentence prescribed for the felony or attempted felony, be punished by an additional term of imprisonment in the state prison for 5, 6, or 10 years."

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Charlie Reese

I received a phone call this morning from a friend advising me of the passing of a mutual friend, Charlie Reese.

I was aware of Charlie's failing health. However, one is never fully prepared to learn of a friend's passing, and that certainly was true of Charlie.

There are so many things one could say about Charlie. On occasion he could be bigger than life, smarter than most. Tougher than nails when necessary. Kinder than your mother. A charmer. And one of the quickest witted, full of humor kind of guys you'd ever want to meet.

As a young police officer, I knew who Charlie was, but I had never been formally introduced to him. He was a sergeant working Newton Street Division of the Los Angeles Police Department in a vice assignment when I arrived to work uniformed patrol in 1963. We worked different watches, but his exploits were already becoming legend.

Charlie had come to Los Angeles

from Omaha, Nebraska, where he had served on the Omaha Police Department. He came to Los Angeles to join the LAPD after another former Omaha policeman, Jack West, now a Los Angeles policeman, suggested Charlie migrate to L.A. and take advantage of the opportunity to join a great police department.

Over the succeeding years, I never had the occasion to speak to Charlie, but I was aware of his advancements in rank.

In 1968, Charlie was captain of University Patrol. Word among the troops was that Charlie was a great guy to work for. He had the unique ability to get the most work out of his personnel by the way he supervised them. His personnel were happy to do their best for a captain like Charlie.

The first time I ever spoke to Charlie was early on a morning in 1968 at the Los Angeles Police Academy. He and Hollywood Division Captain Wes Whit-

taker had just finished running the hills of Elysian Park. I asked him if I could put in a request for transfer to University Division. He said, "Sure. Either hand deliver it or send it through inter-department mail." I delivered it and was on the next transfer to University Division.

There was no stopping Charlie. He was a rising star on the LAPD. He made commander, then deputy chief. He had the talent, ability and integrity to succeed. Later he was in the running for chief and would have made a damn good one. That's not to put down any of the other fine chiefs we've had, but rather to say he would have been every bit as good as the best of them.

Charlie was mentally astute and had great command of the English language, both written and verbal. He was physically strong and ran regularly to keep in shape. Built like an NFL linebacker, he was an athlete, an outdoorsman who loved to go fishing.

Especially with his friends. They fished Lundy Lake in the beautiful eastern Sierra Mountains. The group called themselves, "The Lundy Lake Loonies."

When I considered all of Charlie's accomplishments over the years, both physical and mental, I figured he could do just about anything he put his mind to, and he did for the most part of his life. Charlie at times was a larger than life figure reminiscent of another tough, larger than life figure. You know the one. The guy that wears a red-lined cape, blue tights with the letter "S" on his chest. Who is more powerful than a speeding freight train, faster than a speeding bullet and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound?

As a policeman there are many instances when you have to be tough. Your calls for service and observation on duty run the gamut of the mundane, humorous, to serious, very serious, and at times damn right hazardous to your health. Then there are decisions of a different nature that have to be made as a supervisor. Charlie excelled in these areas. As I said, he was tough and that enabled him to render the correct course

of action or decision according to the prevailing circumstances. When such circumstances confronted Charlie, he could be a tough "sonofabitch" to an opponent, a suspect, or when challenged with a difficult decision.

Now, before you gasp and think I'm casting aspersions on Charlie or his dear mother, I'm not. On occasion, policemen sprinkle their language with profanity. In this case, I used the term as an adjective to emphasize just how tough he could be when the occasion called for toughness. I remember an old cowboy movie starring the late Gary Cooper. One of the characters in the movie referred to Cooper in the vernacular. Cooper approached the cowboy and standing eyeball to eyeball said, "You better smile when you call me that, Mister." The cowboy paused briefly then smiled and that put an end to a potentially explosive situation. So, I'm smiling, Charlie, honest, I'm smiling. I'm smiling through tears, but I'm smiling.

Several years ago, Charlie went through a very serious operation. The operation was botched leaving Charlie in grievous, life threatening circumstances, circumstances that would have felled a lesser man. Charlie fought back and survived, but the incident took its toll and some of the wind out of his sail.

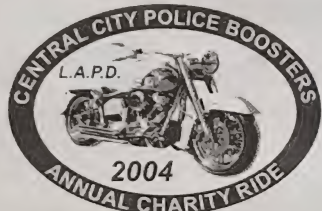
The latest malady was too much for Charlie. It sucked the life out of him and was too much for even a tough guy like Charlie Reese.

You had a wonderful life, Charlie, surrounded by a loving family and devoted friends. You had a more than successful career, and through all of your life you remained one of the good guys.

Well, so long, Charlie. I will miss you. I will miss your warm smile, your hearty laugh, your firm handshake, your quick wit, your humor, your wise counsel. You were one of the finest men I ever met. It was a privilege to have worked for you, a privilege to have known you, and a privilege to call you friend.

Rob Welborn, #6982
Retired Sergeant/DIII

2nd Annual Charity Motorcycle Ride Sunday - May 16, 2004



(Check-in) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.; (Ride & Festivities) 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Help support the Los Angeles Police Department, Central Community Police Station youth and crime prevention programs.

The ride starts at the Police Academy, Elysian Park, 1880 North Academy Way, Los Angeles. The run will be approximately a 50-mile loop with stops at various locations. The ride returns and ends at the Police Academy, Elysian Park, for a barbecue and festivities. The route will be provided at the start of the event.

Your ride donation will include a celebration in the picnic area with a barbecue lunch, event pin (first 500 riders), live entertainment, celebrities, lots of prize giveaways, silent auction, bike enthusiast vendors, information booths from community businesses and LAPD displays. Entertainment provided by Blues recording artist Lightnin' Willie and the Poorboys. Beer and wine will be served at the event.

Come and join the fun! This event is tax deductible and will be a great way to spend your Sunday helping our youth and improving the quality of life in the downtown area.

For further information or registration forms, please contact the Central Community Relations Office, Officer Marie Kardiban at (213) 972-1876. We would appreciate and encourage everyone who will be participating to pre-register (and save \$5). All participants must sign a waiver at the start of the event and are required to present a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

Single Rider - \$35 (includes barbecue lunch, event pin and a prize entry at each stop).

With Passenger - \$50 (includes the same as single rider).

(Pre-registration discount of \$5 for riders only.)

Non-riders - lunch only - \$10 (Barbecue lunch and one entry in prize giveaway).

Sign-Up Sheet - Sunday, May 16, 2004 Central City Police Boosters - 2nd Annual Charity Motorcycle Ride Every participant (motorcycle rider or passenger) MUST complete sign-up sheet.

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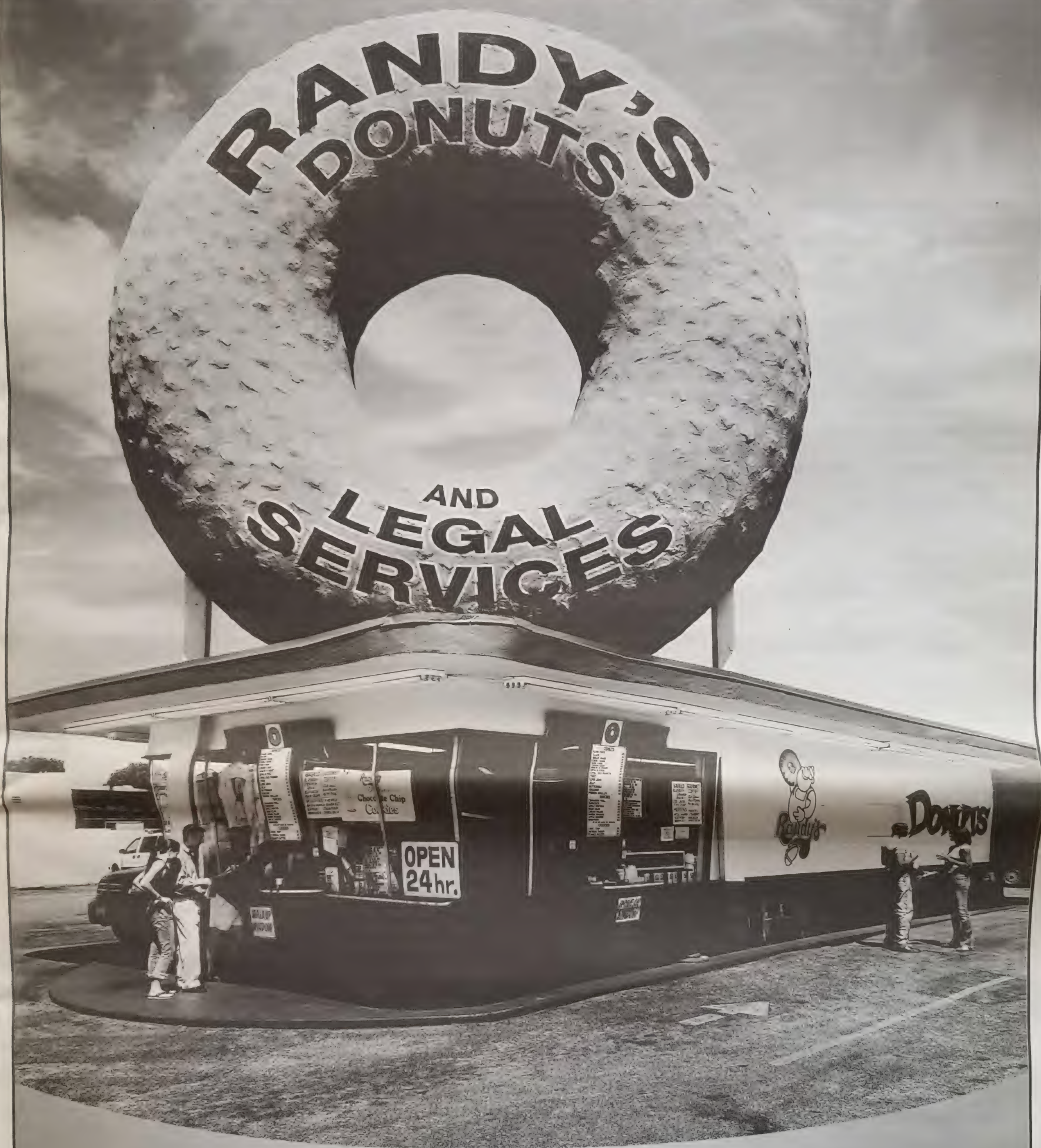
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Killers Slipping Away to Mexico

Steve Cooley, Los Angeles County District Attorney
Jan Maurizi, Director, Los Angeles County District Attorney

A little known decision of the Mexican Supreme Court has rocked the world of international extradition and created a safe haven for murderers in Mexico.

Under the terms of the Extradition Treaty between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, either country may extradite fugitives if the crime is proscribed in both countries, the fugitive is located in the requested country, and the fugitive has not previously been convicted or acquitted of the crime for which extradition is sought. Either country may refuse to extradite if the fugitive is a "national" or if the death penalty is sought. It is interesting to note that while the United States has never invoked either of these provisions, Mexico rarely extradites "nationals" and has *never* extradited on a capital offense without a waiver of the death penalty.

On October 2, 2001, the Mexican Supreme Court ruled that "life imprisonment" is inconsistent with Mexico's policy to rehabilitate their defendants and reincorporate them back into society. Therefore, it constitutes "cruel and unusual punishment" in violation of the Mexican Constitution. In what was then a unilateral evisceration of the Treaty, and an egregious interference with the sovereignty of the United States, the Mexican Supreme Court extended its decision to the Treaty and began to refuse to extradite *anyone* facing either the death penalty or *life imprisonment even with the possibility of parole*. California and many other states have no discretion to seek a deter-

minate sentence with a *guarantee* of parole. Those states are faced with the untenable choice of waiting for the fugitive to return voluntarily, "down-charging" to a crime which carries a determinate term, or relying on Mexico to prosecute under their laws. Since October, 2001, extradition on "life-top" crimes has come to a screeching halt with dozens, perhaps hundreds of criminals slipping away to the safety of Mexico and freedom from prosecution.

Lost in the legal quagmire are the stories of the victims and the families left behind to pick up the pieces. Among them are:



Deputy David March.

On April 29, 2002, Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff, David March was killed during a routine traffic stop. The alleged killer, Armando Garcia, had been deported three times and was a convicted methamphetamine dealer and weapons offender. At the time of Deputy March's murder, Garcia was wanted for two unrelated counts of attempted murder. Garcia is believed to be in Mexico where he fled within hours of the murder. In order to successfully extradite, the charges against Armando Garcia would have to be reduced to manslaughter, assault with a deadly weapon, or some other lesser offense which carries a determinate term.



Armando Garcia.

Sadly, the murder of Deputy March was not an isolated incident. Since 1979, at least 16 law enforcement officers have been killed or seriously injured by illegal aliens, or those who have fled to Mexico, including:

Deputy Don Willmon, Angelina County Texas - Stabbed to death on May 13, 1979, by Alvaro Rodarte who remained a fugitive in Mexico for 24 years. On August 29, 2003, Rodarte was arrested in Zacatecas, Mexico. Although arrested on a Mexican warrant and prosecution commenced pursuant to Article IV, a Mexican court dismissed the case and acquitted the defendant on September 4, 2003. The court found that the statute of limitations had run.

Officer Kenneth Collins, Phoenix Police Department - Shot and killed by a fleeing robbery suspect on May 27, 1988. Co-defendant Rudy Romero fled to Mexico where he remained at large for 12 years. Mexico finally agreed to extradite after a two year battle and waiver of both the death penalty and life without the possibility of parole.

Agent Richard Fass, U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency - Shot and killed by drug dealers during an undercover buy on June 30, 1994. Co-defendants were arrested, prosecuted, convicted and sentenced to life without the possibility of parole plus 55 years. The mastermind of the plot to kill Agent Fass, Vazquez Mendoza fled to Mexico where he remains today. Despite the fact that Mendoza was arrested on the U.S. warrant on July 10, 2000, as of the date of this article, Mexican authorities have refused to release Mendoza.

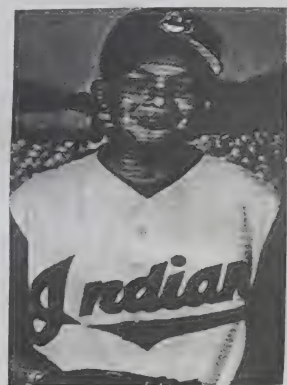
Deputy Michael Schapp, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - Shot in the forehead during a hail of gunfire that erupted during a routine traffic stop on September 25, 2000. Deputy Schapp survived and has been able to return to limited duty. The fugitive remains at large and is believed to be in Mexico.

Ranger Kriss Eggle, National Park Service - Ambushed, shot, and killed by a drug dealer fleeing Mexican authorities just over the border at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. Mexican police officers firing from the Mexican side of the border, killed the fugitive.

Officer Matthew Pavelka, Burbank Police Department - On November 15, 2003, Officer Pavelka, the son of a veteran Los Angeles Police Officer, was shot and killed and his partner, Gregory Campbell seriously injured by David

Garcia and a crime partner who was ultimately killed by police during the shootout. Garcia fled to Mexico but because he was a second generation U.S. citizen, he was quickly expelled as an "undesirable" and now faces the possibility that the death penalty will be sought by Los Angeles County prosecutors.

Other officers killed or injured in the line of duty include, **Officer Lawrence Cadena**, Dallas Police Department, December 13, 1988; **Trooper Robert Clodfelter**, Oregon State Police, September 30, 1992; **Officer Marc Atkinson**, Phoenix Police Department, March 28, 1999; **Detective Hugh Arango**, Doroville Police Department, May 13, 2000; **Officer Michael Dunman**, Salt Lake City Police Department, July 17, 2000; **Officer Enrique Hernandez**, Las Vegas Police Department, December 12, 2001; **Officer Richard Sitek**, Phoenix Police Department, April 12, 2003; **Officer Tony Zeppetella**, Oceanside Police Department, June 13, 2003; **Agent James Epling**, U.S. Border Patrol, killed December 16, 2003.



Steven Morales.

Steven Morales, age 12, was gunned down by gang member Alvaro Jara in a drive-by shooting which targeted three other gang members. The murder, which was witnessed by Steven's mother, occurred as he played baseball in front of his home.

Jara was quickly located in Mexico sometime between April and July of 2001, months before the Mexican Supreme Court decision. However, Mexico refused to deport Jara, an American citizen of Hispanic descent. Extradition was sought and then withdrawn after the October ruling. The punishment for Steven's murder in California is life without the possibility of parole or the death penalty plus four additional life sentences. In Mexico, if extradition is denied based on "nationality", the matter converts to a Mexican prosecution and California is absolutely bound by the results. In order to successfully extradite, charges would have to be reduced.

In an ironic twist of fate, Jara's brother, Oscar Jara, committed a similar

continued on page 27

National Police Week May 2004

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Police Week is always the week of May 15, Peace Officers Memorial Day. The Candlelight Vigil is always May 13.

May 9, 2004 (Sunday)
9th Annual Blue Mass

May 10, 2004 (Monday)
10th Annual Law Ride

May 12, 2004 (Wednesday)
Police Unity Tour Arrival Ceremony

May 13, 2004 (Thursday)
16th Annual Candlelight Vigil, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

May 14, 2004 (Friday)
2nd Annual Steve Young Honor Guard Competition
National Concerns of Police Survivors' Seminars
Concerns of Police Survivors
9th Annual Emerald Society & Pipeband March and Service

May 15, 2004 (Saturday)
23rd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Services
FOP/FOPA Wreathlaying Ceremony

May 16, 2004 (Sunday)
National Police Survivors' Seminars
Concerns of Police Survivors



CALIFORNIA

Candlelight Vigil
Thursday, May 6, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.
State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

Private Indoor Ceremony
Friday, May 7, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
State Capitol

Walk of Honor
Friday, May 7, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Capitol Steps West Side

Outdoor Ceremony
Friday, May 7, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

LOS ANGELES

LAPD Candlelight Vigil
Sunday, May 2, (TIME T.B.A.)
Westchester Academy

LAPD Memorial Service
Monday, May 3, 11:00 a.m.
Parker Center

L.A. County Peace Officer Memorial
Wednesday, May 19, 10:00 a.m.
L.A. Sheriffs Star Center, Whittier

Los Angeles Women Police Officer's Association
cordially invites you to attend

Legendary Ladies Luncheon

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2004, 11:30 A.M.

Stevens Steak & Seafood House
5332 Stevens Place, City of Commerce

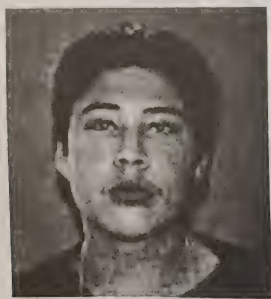
Reservations required. No tickets sold at door. Price ~ \$18.00
Mail to: LAWPOA, P.O. Box 531067, LA 90053 by April 25
For information call 626-422-5678

Legendary Ladies is a group of active and retired LAPD original Policewomen/Police officers, who created and continue to share in the history of women on the Department.

Mexico

continued from page 26

drive-by murder killing a teenager and is also believed to have fled to Mexico.



Alvaro Jara.



Anabella and Carlos Vara.

Anabella Vara was kidnaped, stalked and held at gunpoint by her ex-husband, Daniel Perez who ultimately shot her in the back of the head and left her for dead. Anabella miraculously survived.

Perez was arrested, charged, bailed out and was ultimately tried for the attempted murder of Anabella. On the last day of the trial, after Anabella and her father Carlos testified against him, Perez got his revenge. Since Anabella had been taken to a "safe-house", Perez broke into the family home and murdered her father in front of the entire

family. Perez was convicted and sentenced in absentia to life plus 33 years and is now charged with the capital murder of Anabella's father.

Daniel Perez has lived in the United States since he was two years old, attended grade school, junior high school, high school and San Diego State University. He was a supervisor with a California state public agency. Daniel Perez actively sought American citizenship for many years but now has found safe haven from prosecution by fleeing to Mexico, a country he and his family abandoned many years ago.

Conclusion

These stories represent only a few of the hundreds of families who today suffer the double injustice of watching their loved ones murdered and then are forced to sit idly by while the killers are allowed safe haven in Mexico or are tried under Mexican law and acquitted



Daniel Perez.

or sentenced to minimal terms or allowed to "purchase" their freedom from a corrupt public official.

The sovereignty of the United States and its 50 states is at stake here. For the last three years, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has been at the forefront of this fray, demanding that at a minimum, Mexico be required to comply with the extradition treaty or face

withdrawal, renegotiation or sanctions for non-compliance. As a result of our efforts, resolutions have been introduced in the House of Representatives, California State Legislature, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, National League of Cities, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Latino Peace Officers Association, National Narcotics Association Coalition, and countless other police agencies, municipalities and organizations. The House Governmental Reform Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources has undertaken an investigation. Senator Dianne Feinstein is spearheading an effort in the United States Senate by the introduction of S. Con. Res 79.

California and five other states currently have legislation which gives full faith and credit to actions by a foreign country and prohibits further prosecution under the double jeopardy clause. AB 1432, sponsored by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, is currently pending in the California Legisla-

ture. This bill would remove the bar to re-prosecution after a foreign conviction or acquittal and render California laws consistent with those of 44 other states.

The federal government is not doing its job to enforce the Treaty and demand justice for its citizens. However, it is not enough to say that this is a federal problem. Every day, law enforcement officer and civilian lives are endangered by fugitives who know they're home free if they kill their victims and make it to Mexico. They can steal a car and Mexico will send them back but if they kill the driver, Mexico protects them!

We need to act now to demand that President Bush, Secretary Powell, Attorney General Ashcroft and our legislators take action so that not one more life is lost to those allowed to escape justice for the price of a bus ticket across the border.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office will be launching "Escaping Justice. Com", a victim based website, in Spring, 2004.

Updated February 23, 2004

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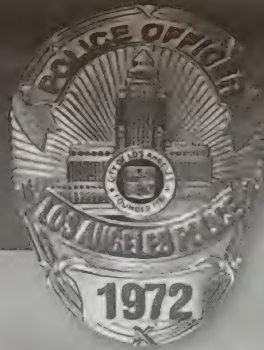
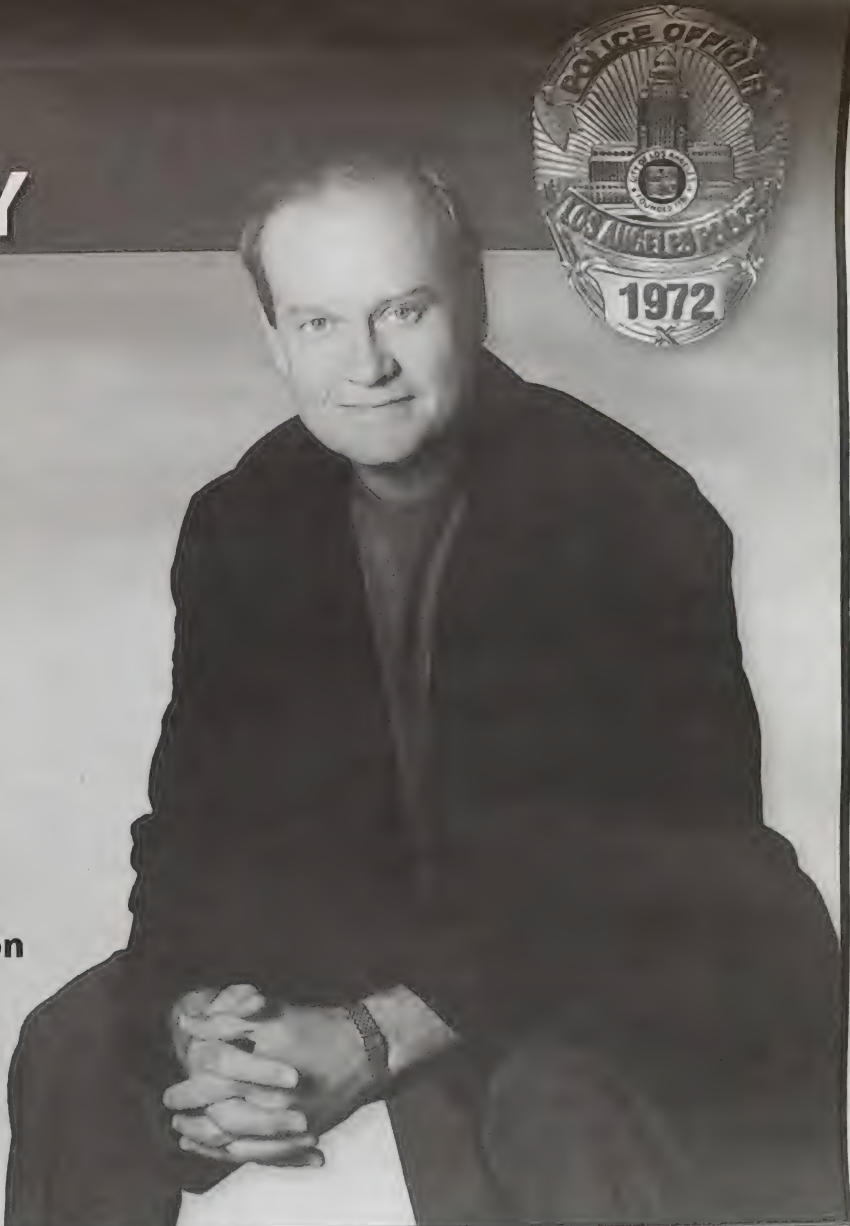
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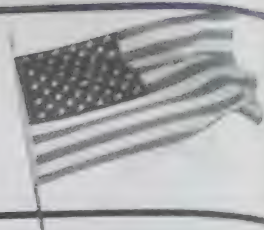
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Tickets Available At All LAPD Stations



VETERAN'S CORNER





American Legion
Police Post # 381

Post Commander Dennis DeNoi

POST MEETINGS
THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

LOS ANGELES POLICE POST #381
13553 Reedley Avenue
Panorama City, Ca 91402
(818) 781-2261

ADJUTANT FRANK ORTIZ
160 N. Glendora Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
(626) 331-4271

EDITOR "JJ" LEONARD
(818) 992-1414

Commander's Message

As most of you know, besides being your post commander, I am also the Department Military Liaison Officer. Unlike the commander job where you are "run out" of office after a year, there are no term limits to the Military Liaison Officer position. I hope to continue my efforts as the Military Liaison Officer for some time to come and to keep serving all our veterans in this rewarding, although demanding assignment.

My activities as the Military Liaison officer led to an invitation to address the monthly meeting of the Los Angeles Retired Fire & Police Association (LARFPA). Retired LAPD Captain William O. Gartland, the Director of the LARFPA has been reading my articles in the *Blue Line* and following the many benefits and services that the Military Liaison Officer program has been providing to active, as well as, retired employees. I was grateful for this opportunity to address such a distinguished group, because I really enjoy spreading the word about this highly beneficial program. There were approximately 60 members of the association in attendance, and to my surprise, about half of them were also long-time comrades of Police Post 381. I felt right at home among this group as I outlined my program and offered them my assistance. I was present during their directors meeting and was impressed by the association's involvement in fighting for both LAPD and LAFD active and retired employee benefits. The other noticeable thing was the age of the members present. Being an association of retired City employees, you would expect their ages to be advanced, however, like the American Legion, it was predominately the long-time members in attendance, not the newer and younger members. It was this observation and a

conversation with one of our Post's members that caused me to review our Post membership roster. The copy I have was printed in June 2002. Los Angeles Police Post 381 has over 2000 members in good standing, of those, over 500 members have 50 plus years and 5 others have 59 years continuous American Legion membership. Whenever you publish a list, there is always a danger in missing someone's name or other blunder, but having said that I feel I should still list the five comrades with 59 years service. They are **George A. Audet, Jack Collins, Glen Kailey, Adaim Safian, and Edgar Smith**. Continuing with thought of longevity, it was World War I veterans that founded the American Legion in 1919 and established the Los Angeles Police Post 318 eleven years later in May of 1930. It is the latter date I want to highlight, next year (2005) will mark our Post's 75th Anniversary. I want our members (young and old) to start to make plans to attend the Police Post's 75th Anniversary in 2005. With just over a year to prepare, we are beginning the planning process. As we set the date and work out the details, we will publish them in this column. If you have any suggestions, ideas or recommendations please contact one of the Post's Officers. Additionally, if you would like to volunteer your time or services they would be greatly appreciated. I also want to invite you to attend the **Post's Annual Pre-State Convention Barbecue on June 8, 2004, at the Elysian Park Police Academy (mark your calendars)**. This year's State convention is being held in Redding, California, therefore not as many members will be able to make the big journey north. I ask that you join us at the Academy barbecue and help the Post celebrate our largest social event of the year. I encourage you to call up that old classmate, partner, friend or supervisor (that you have been meaning to for years) and invite them to join you at the barbecue. Let's make this grand event worthy of the Post's glorious history within the Department.

OFFICER DOWN! As the Military Liaison Officer, I work out of the Department Ombuds Office. The Department Wellness Coordinator is also assigned to the Ombuds office and it is this close association that brought to my attention the recent serious accident of a fellow Marine, American Legion member and Police Officer. **Police Officer I Santiago Gascon # 36671** of Rampart Division was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident near the Police Academy on February 19, 2004. I have asked our Post Adjutant, Frank Ortiz to contact both the State and National headquarters of the American Legion, to see if comrade Gascon qualifies for any benefits or services. If you know of any other benefits, funds or services that he may qualify for, or if you want to donate funds or services to him and his family, please contact Rampart Area at 213-485-4060. If there is no more business, "Till we meet again." Semper Fi, DJD

February 17, 2004 Meeting

The regular-monthly Board meeting began/finally at 5:30pm (only 30 minutes late) with Cmdr. **Dennis DeNoi**, 1st

Vice **JJ Leonard**, 2nd Vice **Dick Kalk**, Adjutant **Frank Ortiz**, Finance Officer **Hal Yarnell** and **Bob Reeves**. Support of the LAPD Motorcycle Drill Team continues with the team scheduled to represent the LAPD at the Annual Pacific Grove Police Motorcycle Competition held on April 3rd.

The upcoming Department State Convention was discussed. As usual **JJ Leonard & Rick Leiphardt** will be running the hospitality room. A big change, we are not staying up at Lake Shasta as normal-we are staying in town on Hilltop Drive at the "Oxford Suites". Get your reservations in NOW with Frank Ortiz...rooms are at a premium. The dates are June 23-27, 2004. Our Installation of Officers will be on the 26th with our annual dinner following. Note, another change-normally we have the dinner on Friday.

The following were in attendance: Cmdr. **Dennis DeNoi**, Finance Ofcr **Hal Yarnell**, Adjutant **Frank Ortiz**, 1st Vice **Richard Kalk**, 2nd Vice/Chaplain **JJ Leonard**, **Arthur Ferugia** (his first meeting with Police Post, he's transferring over from Van Nuys Post. Arthur just retired after 30 years with the LAPD Photo Lab), **Bill Zimmerman**, **Bob Reeves**, **Pinky Meredith**, **M.L. Maydeck**, **Bob Kosier** (with his Brand New Police Post Legion Cap), **George Hofstetter**, **Rob Welborn**, **Emmett Drennen**, **Recruit Officer Nolayan Herdegen** Class 11-3 scheduled for graduation on May 28th received his promotion to E-5 in the U.S. Army Reserve today, Sgt. at Arms **Joe Mueller**, **Boris Mengelle** and **Sam Zagorianos** (from our Greek Post). Also in attendance was **Richard & Elvia Ledesma**, our 17th District 3rd Vice Cmdr. Where was **Ray Elmer**, **Gail Tam**, **Glen Kailey & Rick Leiphardt**?

Several items discussed during the meeting were: using for the State Convention, Boys State, the Drill Team performing in Pacific Grove, the Steak Fry prior to the State convention. Also discussed was our 75th Anniversary, which will occur next May 2005. A dinner-dance was proposed in conjunction with a donation program to further an American Legion Police Post display at the Police Museum.

The dinner, once again, went over great! With the volunteer services of Magen and her fiancée. In fact, I think everyone went back for seconds.

Los Angeles Police Motorcycle Drill Team

June 27, 2004...Sunday...San Fernando Recreation Park...1st St & Park Ave.

Special Days in April:

April 2, 3 & 4, 2004...14th Annual Pacific Grove Calif. Police Motorcycle Competition.

LAPD M/C Drill Team will be representing us.

April 6-13, 2004...Passover

April 7, 2004...Emerald Society monthly meeting, 7pm, LAPD Academy

April 11, 2004...Easter

April 13, 2004...Choir Boys Region V monthly meeting, Coco's, Victory Blvd & Topanga Cyn Blvd, Woodland Hills.

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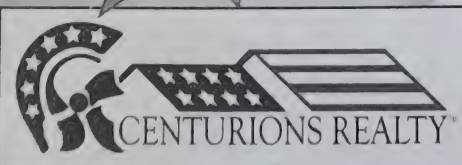


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February 17, 2004 Meeting

continued from page 28

April 20, 2004.....Police Post 381 meet at Panorama Post, Dinner at 6:30 pm.

End of Watch:

Motor Sergeant **John James Amott III**, USMC, 60, of Agoura Hills (formerly of West Islip & Oyster Bay, N.Y.), "The Voice of the Valley," "35M20," sud-

denly passed away on Feb. 11th while jogging. Appointed 10-05-70, Retired August 15, 2003, EOW 02-11-04.

He was a retired LAPD Motor Sgt., veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, a charter member of the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society, 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus 8072, member of Firefighters Quest of Burn Survivors, and an active and respected member of his church and community.

He was the beloved husband of 37

years of Maureen; loving father of Patrick (Christina), Matthew (Saira) and Michelle (Jon Alpert); cherished grandfather of Kyle and Emily; brother of Maureen Pizzo (Frank), Kathleen Jacques (Jeff), Wendy Windeler (John McDonald), Mary-Lou Esposito (Lou), Rita Amott, and Dick Amott (Jodi). Many nieces and nephews also survive him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John James Amott Jr. and Katherine (McCourt), and brothers Tom and

William.

Internment was at Valley Oaks Memorial Park in Westlake Village.

Our Brothers Still Missing

Many of our brothers who served in the Armed Forces of this great country are unable to enjoy the freedom and liberty, which their sacrifices helped to secure. Pause for a few moments to remember those brave souls who have not returned home yet. Don't ever forget them! POW/MIA. Semper Fi! "JJ" ❖

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 18

From John Ypelaar
Subject: Badge

Good day, colleagues.

Yesterday I sent mail to LAPD and received a response. What I want is this: I retired in the Nederlands Police force. My hobby is collecting badges or anything from Police Forces around the world. I will pay the cost of mailing a badge or any other insignia. I put an example of a badge from the police from the Netherlands. I wish you all a long life to serve your corps and your families.

Many greetings from:

Name: John Ypelaar
Address: Pieter de Swartstreet
Street Number: 25
Postal number code: 5622JP
City: Eindhoven
The Netherlands

To the editors of the Blue Line:
Re: Hank Hernandez's column, "League Asks Department to Alter Tattoo/Branding Policy," The Thin Blue Line, March 2004.

Since retiring in 1998, I have been off the Department's distribution list for Special Orders so I was not aware of (2003) Special Order 48. For over 30 years of police work, I never realized the huge, negative impact made on the quality of police service that was being caused by sworn personnel walking around with visible tattoos.

Special Order 48 is reminiscent of the former Chief of Police, Bill Parker's proclamations, "I don't want to see any of my officers with hairy arms or tatoos," the policy that kept his officers in long sleeve shirts until the 1960's. With all the problems the Department has to deal with, of this is an example of one of its high priority, I see the Department marching boldly into the 1950's.

John R. Schlank, LAPD Retired

Open Letter to League Director Mitzi Grasso:

Subject: January 2004 *Blue Line* Article on the Department's Tattoo Policy

I am writing in regards to the recent article you published in the January 2004 *Blue Line* entitled "League Fights Ban on Tattoos."

Your tirade regarding the new Department policy forbidding visible tattoos for on-duty personnel and how the tattoo was an "ancient art form" and "protected speech conduct" was at best laughable. I am a League member. However, when the LAPPL goes off on these ridiculous, time consuming, and expensive tantrums, it does nothing but create more ill will towards the League. Many members of the Department applauded the recent re-implementation of the visible tattoo ban for on-duty personnel. The Department had this policy for many years and it did much to promote the professional appearance of the Department and improved how the public viewed the Department. I do not know why the Department ever left this

policy in the past, but its reinstitution is long overdue. I have seen officers appear in court and working on-duty in the field that essentially looked like a gang member had picked up one of our uniforms and showed up to work as a cop for the day. I have also seen judges and members of the public openly question the desirability of these "art forms," and I have not heard one public comment to the positive about visible tattoos on uniformed officers.

Additionally, if the League actually had reliable legal counsel, you would realize that the right to personal appearance is not a fundamental right under the U.S. Constitution and that police departments are justified in controlling grooming and professional appearance standards of uniformed police personnel. (*Kelley v. Johnson*, 425 U.S. 238, 96 S. Ct. 1440, 47 L.Ed.2d 708 (1976).)

Instead of haranguing the Department for trying to improve the image portrayed to the public, perhaps the League should start working with the Depart-

ment to implement meaningful changes without fighting over every little change the Department tries to effect. The Department's visible tattoo policy deals with a legitimate concern, which directly affects how our officers are viewed and perceived by members of the public. The visible tattoo policy does not violate "speech conduct," and the League is absolutely wrong on this issue.

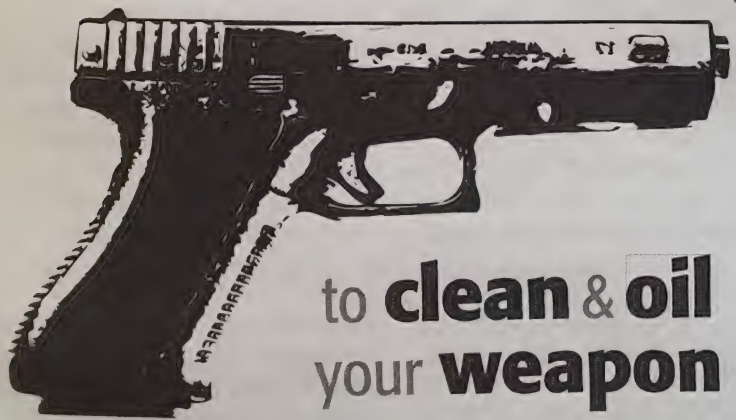
Sgt. Steven Cook
TCS

(Editor's Note: The objections of the Board of Directors to the handling of Special Order #48 go beyond the issue of tattoos. The Department's unilateral implementation of this order prior to fulfilling its obligations under the meet and confer process should be of concern to every member. We will continue to ensure our members' interests are represented and protected when necessary. This includes right to the benefits of the collective bargaining process.) ❖

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Ingemunson

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and the DA investigator respond to the scene. Richard says that he will try to get a feel for what happened as soon as possible on his arrival, while realizing that the situation is still fluid and the findings of the final investigation may be different. The responding DDA's will not take part in the interview of officers because they do not yet want to expose themselves to compelled statements. Usually, when the officer's walk through of the scene is completed, they will be given their own walk through by the Critical Incident Investigator Division investigator and lieutenant. If there are civilian witnesses, the DDA and the DA investigator will pair off with the Robbery Homicide Investigators to interview the witnesses. Both the DDA and the RHD investigators will tape record the witnesses statement.

When all of this has been accomplished, the DART DDA and DA investigator will head home. A short synopsis of what happened is prepared for the head deputies and then a more detailed report is prepared at a later time.

Eventually, the CIID report is completed and submitted to JSID. The same DDA that did the roll out is assigned to examine the report, known as the "shoot book." The roll out deputy district attorney then has the job of making a legal analysis of the actions of the officers to determine if they have violated any laws. Tactics and administrative violations are ignored.

The DDA will receive the investigation with the officer's compelled statements sealed in a separate envelope. The reviewing DDA will attempt to

arrive at a legal analysis of the case without viewing the compelled statements, if possible. If this is not possible, state law authorizes the DA to review the compelled statements (although they cannot be used against the officer).

The DDA has ninety days to get out the analysis. He, or she, will do this in the form of an opinion letter. The letter will recite the facts, in detail, and will apply principles of criminal law to those facts, and end in a legal opinion as to the legality of the officer's acts. In the overwhelming number of cases, the officer's use of force is legally justified and does not violate any criminal laws.

Richard realizes that it is important to get the opinion out as soon as possible for the officer's benefit. The opinion is mailed to the Department and to the officer. If any of the compelled statements are used in the opinion, they are clearly labeled to preserve the officer's privacy in his, or her, personnel records.

In rare cases, where it is believed that the officer committed a crime, a clean team is constructed to review the case for prosecution without using any of the officer's compelled statements.

Richard has some advice for officers involved in a use of force. First, he says, do whatever is necessary to keep yourself and others safe. Then, when the inevitable investigation comes, be as honest and straightforward with the facts as possible because in the overwhelming number of cases officers have not done anything illegal. Accurate facts will help the reviewing DDA do his job. JSID will get the opinion letter out as soon as possible to bring the criminal issue to resolution.

Sleep Deprivation Issues

This is not a new issue. In October of

2002, the League filed a lawsuit against the Department for requiring that two officers, who had been through a lengthy pursuit and a related officer-involved-shooting, be interviewed when they had been up over twenty-four hours. In November of 2003, in exchange for the Department issuing written guidelines, the League dismissed the lawsuit. The Department issued guidelines say, in relevant part, the following:

"Occasionally, an officer that is the subject of a CIID investigation and waiting to be interviewed has been on-duty for periods of time exceeding twenty-four hours. It is the goal of CIID to obtain accurate information from the interviews of involved and witnessing personnel. Sleep deprivation can interfere with this goal. Although there is no 'bright line' when sleep deprivation will impact an officer's ability to respond to questions accurately due to different physical and mental constitutions, there is a likelihood that an average person will be impaired when he, or she, has been continuously on-duty for twenty-four hours." [emphasis added]

The guidelines go on to mention that the process should be modified to prevent this occurrence and gives authority to allow officers to get rest if they have been on duty for that long of a time period.

Problem solved? Nope.

A month ago, an officer was involved in a pursuit and a related officer-involved-shooting. He had been on duty for in excess of twenty-four hours and awake several hours longer than that. He was ordered to participate in the CIID interview. His attorney strenuously objected and calls were made reminding the Department of their policy. It was finally agreed that the officer could go to the cot room with the supervision of a sergeant.

Problem solved? Nope.

Seventy-five minutes later, he was awakened and ordered to participate in the interview. Do you think seventy-five minutes of rest after being awake close to thirty hours is going to have anything but a negative impact on the ability to provide a rational statement?

The League complained to the Department.

Problem solved? Nope. Two weeks ago, three officers were involved in a lengthy pursuit and a related officer-involved-shooting. By the time of the CIID interviews, all three officers had been on duty over twenty-four hours and awake for nearly thirty. The interviews proceeded anyway.

According to research done at the Department of Behavioral Biology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, a person's mental performance degrades by 25% for every twenty-four hours a person is deprived of sleep. Other research has shown that a person who has been awake for twenty-four hours is

functionally equivalent to a driver who is legally intoxicated. Should the Department force an officer into an interview that has significant ramifications for civil liability, criminal liability and administrative liability when this officer is too impaired to even drive legally? Yet, that is exactly what is done.

The problem is compounded by the fact that, many times, the CIID investigators have also been up in excess of twenty-four hours. Their mental capacity has dropped by 25% also. You then have the sleep deprived interviewing the sleep deprived. Later, Department managers and Consent Decree monitors (presumably well rested) critique the CIID investigators on holes in their investigation and relevant questions not asked.

Sleep deprivation may be good for brain washing, but it has no place in an investigation that is supposedly striving for accuracy.

Are You Crazy?

"Anything else you can think of that will help this investigation?" the investigator asked?

"No," I said, thankful it was finally over.

The investigator stated the time and turned off the recorder. He gave me a piece of paper with instructions to go to SID and get my gun test fired. I stood up and folded the paper to put in my pocket.

"You also have to go to Behavioral Sciences Section and talk to the shrink," he said matter of factly. "You need to be cleared to go back into the street. Until then you will have to ride the desk."

He must have seen the shocked look on my face.

"Routine," he said. "Everyone involved in a shooting has to do it."

"Why? I'm fine."

"Who knows. It's procedure."

I had been on the Department long enough to know that this ended the discussion.

I was so tired that I didn't even change out of my uniform. I figured I could pick up my street clothes from my locker later. As I walked to the parking lot, I could see the booms on news vans and hear shouting voices. I walked over to the edge of the parking lot and looked towards the front of the station. Several news cameras were filming a small group of protesters who were marching back and forth shouting. I couldn't hear everything that was being said, but the word "murderer" came through clearly.

It took a minute, but I finally realized they were talking about me. I looked at the cameras and envisioned the faces of my wife and children watching the news. I involuntarily walked in a circle locked in motion but unable to decide which way to go. Perhaps visiting the shrink wasn't such a bad idea.

To Be Continued...

Be legally careful out there. ♦

Sands

continued from page 5

of-force report shall provide insight. In addition, the W/C or O.I.C. shall evaluate the supervisor of the incident (not required by Consent Decree.)

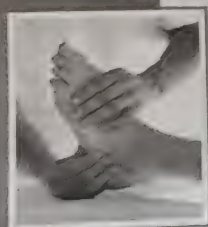
In summary, the above examples are just a few of the many repetitive and irrelevant duties of officers and supervisors involving non-categorical uses of force. Basically, the Department has incorporated most, if not all of the requirements for categorical uses of

force into the investigation of non-categorical uses of force. The only functional difference is that the CIID does not roll out to handle the incident and there is no requirement to tape record the employee interviews. This degree of investigation is not required by the Consent Decree. The manpower waste is tremendous!

The other Directors and I, along with our rollout attorneys, will be meeting with the Department to hopefully simplify this process. I will be updating the membership as any progress is made.

Take care and be safe!

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by T. Gracey
West Traffic Division

Greetings from **T. Gracey**, the unofficial substitute writer while Sgt. **Krajchir** is off IOD for knee surgery. Hope to see you back soon!

Photos

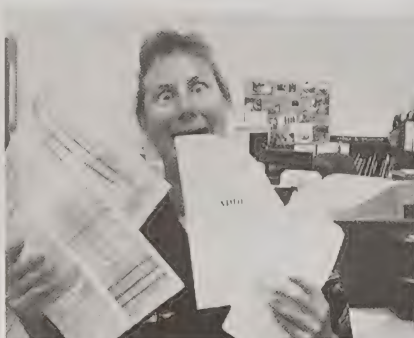
The accompanying photos in this



article are Motor Officer **Wallace** in his not so famous "Cat in the Hat" disguise, Sgt. **Barlow** going crazy and Officer **Alex Kordis** showing off his newest toy, a digital audio camera.

Traffic Question of the Month

When is P-1 not the driver of V-1?



Answer: When he decides he does not want to drive an airport shuttle bus anymore, gets up from the driver's seat and sits in the rear passenger seat while the vehicle is moving, proceeds through the I/S and collides with a car, then a building. The passenger of V-1 said he started talking to the driver about ex-wives and he suddenly got up "like he was getting up from the dinner table" and sat in the back while they were moving down the street.

Travel tip: Don't engage in conversation with the driver about ex-wives and you might be okay.

Notice to all WTD personnel: Please feel free to submit any stories or photos for future articles.



by "Helper"
Wilshire Division

On behalf of the entire Wilshire Family, we would like to extend our condolences to the **Ricardo Lizarraga** family and friends. We lost a true hero on February 20, 2004. You will be missed.

The amount of massive gunfire that has been directed at our officers in the recent months has truly been inexcusable. It is a shame that such a young officer had to be gunned down for the citizens of this great city to finally realize what was transpiring. Wilshire officers were also recently involved in a shootout while trying to take a vandalism suspect into custody.

On February 14, 2004, at approximately 0230 hours, Officers **Jackman** and **Hodson** observed a suspect spray painting on walls in the area of Beverly and Vermont. Officer Hodson and Jackson were involved in short foot pursuit with the suspect down Alexandria St. Officer Hodson, who is known for being an outstanding runner, quickly caught up with the suspect and attempted to take him into custody. The suspect did not want to go quietly. Officer Hodson and suspect fell to the ground and began to wrestle around. Officer Hodson was gaining on the suspect when suspect pulled out firearm and began to try and fire a round at Officer Hodson. Officer Hodson was able to get a hold of the hand that held the firearm and control it somewhat while suspect continued to fire rounds at Officer Hodson. Officer Jackman, fearing for the life of her partner, fired two rounds into the suspect from a position of advantage making sure not to endanger her partner. Suspect dropped the weapon and still continued to fight with the officers after being wounded. After a short

while, Officers were able to take suspect into custody without further incident.

Officers **Curry** and **Davis**, #36884, assisted with the investigation and were able to find numerous victims of vandalism which were eventually tied into suspects' crimes. Captain **Findley**, Commanding Officer Patrol, would like to thank all officers that responded to the scene that evening and assisted in the investigation and perimeter control of a very volatile situation. Officers **Hodson** and **Jackson** are back at work and patrolling the streets together again.

Departures

Sgt. **S. Kennedy**, #26227, will be leaving Wilshire and moving out to the Foothill Area where he will be taking over the Gang Unit. Good luck, sir, and you are welcome back here anytime. FTO **S. Ramos**, #34666, is moving next door to PAC for a better scenic view and the swell ocean breeze. Officer **T. Boling**, #36480, is wheeling all the way down south to Harbor and he is taking Officer **D. Holmes**, #36499, with him. Enjoy the port and say hi to all the former Wilshire officers that fled down there, i.e., **Patty Vega**, **Gregson**, and **Ashcraft**. Officer **Ed Avila**, #36475, is on his way to Van Nuys. Officer **J. Marquez**, #36503, is moving all the way to WVAL. Enjoy your time at your new divisions and for those of you that have just wheeled out, I'm sure you will be back.

Arrivals

Sgt.-1 **R. Moreno**, #30557, is moving on up to Wilshire Division from SW. The following P-1s will be coming in and we are excited to have you. Officers **J. Chi**, #37073, **D. Dilworth**, #37076, **J. Hope**, #37083, **R. Ramirez**, #37091, and **J. Schmidt**, #37096. We are also very proud to announce that we have a Lateral Police Officer from LASO who will be coming to us. Officer **J. Pugh**, #37154, will be making the transformation from the Jails to Street Patrol. Good luck and we look forward to working with you.

Officer **Hector Marquez** and his wife, Angela, are proud to announce the birth of baby **Marissa**, born November 5, 2003, at 1826 hours. Marissa



Marrissa Katherine Marquez

Katherine Marquez was born at 8 lbs., 3 oz., and she was 20 inches tall. Mother and baby are doing fine, and Dad is back at work. Congratulations.

By the time this edition is printed, Baker to Vegas 2004 should only be a couple of days away. We would like to wish everyone a good time, and remember to take care of each other. As for all the Wilshire runners, bring back the gold.

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IN MEMORY OF RICARDO

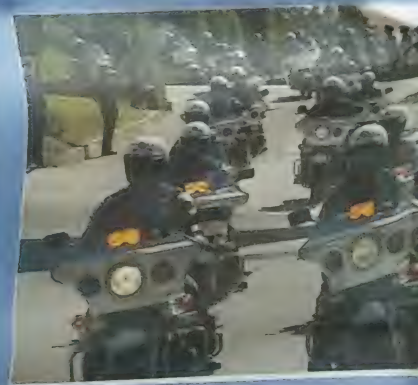
TO ALL WHO HAVE REMEMBERED OFFICER RICARDO LIZARRAGA:

Time seems to have stopped for us as we try to cope with Ricardo's death. The tremendous outpouring of kindness and support shown by all of you has been a great source of comfort and strength to the family. We have received so many beautiful flowers and cards, and contributions to the fund. Your generosity and thoughtfulness has been overwhelming. It gives us comfort and peace of mind to see the community come together during this difficult time.

We have taken this means to express our appreciation in the hopes that this note will reach as many of you as possible to let you know how grateful we are and how much we appreciate what you have done for us. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

The Wife and Family of Officer Ricardo Lizarraga

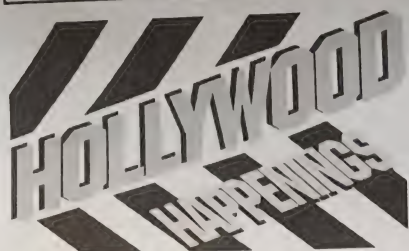


Photos courtesy of Cornel M. Panov, LAPD Photographer

LIZARRAGA



DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Floyd Toledo
Hollywood Division

As I look around, I see that only one officer transferred out—P2 J. McSorley to Wilshire. No one came in, but it didn't help me find a parking space in our south lot.

Membership Outreach Event

On February 5, 2004, Hollywood Division was invaded by a friendly, gift-

bearing army of Protective League directors. They arrived in the parking lot of our station and quickly set up an area for both feasting and ensuring an environment filled with informative answers to Hollywood officers' questions. The inquiries included: How do I update my designed physician form, my life insurance, my medical and dental coverage and enhance my legal plan?

Most of the nine League directors attended the event. This demonstrated their efforts to close the imaginary gap between officers and their union leaders. Filling it was solved by a large amount of personal information resolving rumors and disbeliefs fostered by a small lack of knowledge and kinship.

The part that I appreciated was the 500 hamburgers distributed by the In-N-Out mobile kitchen. I will always be



amazed watching fellow officers actually being stumped trying to decide what item to order. *Try ordering a hamburger!*

They can't get those backlogs down, but those detectives sure can down those

burgers.

Hollywood Luncheon

On Thursday, February 26, 2004, Hollywood Detective Division hosted a luncheon to raise money for the station fund, but more importantly to provide nourishment to the men and women who are remodeling our station. The menu included a taco bar consisting of carne asada, chicken and pork tacos with rice and beans. The event turned out to be a great success. Thanks to all those who participated.



by Fitz
Rampart Division

Outs

Rampart Alumni...whether you're hookin' and bookin' in another division or have pulled your pin and you're playin' poker with the boys...your spirit shall always live on in the halls of The Castle!

Young Guns

Congrats to our Rampart Explorers for being top dogs and winnin' the 2004 Tac competition "Hogan's Alley" in Arizona. They competed against other agencies from throughout the nation in a four day competition and showed 'em all what Rampart is all about. Our explorers- Allan Flores, Guillermo Castorena, Maryon Alvarisaez, Inmir Valle, Vicky Martinez and Keren Guterrez... Good job, guys and gals!

Heat On The Street

P3 Matt Zeigler and P2 Damien "DL" Levesque nab an MS'er with a gun. P2 Pete Abskharon and P2 Ozzie Delgadillo catch a dope slinger Mara gangster with a .45 auto and bag filled with powder cocaine bindles. P2 Shane Bua and P2 Jesse Audelo get a South Central gangsta with a nina in his ride. P3 Clint Dona and P2 Brian Koren hook up a wanted 187 suspect lurkin' on

a bus bench...and then, a kidnap/rape predator right off his job-site... and then, a 288'er off a wanted flyer and then, NO and then! P3 Chris Razo and his boot P1 Danny Bunch Jr located an MS gangster wanted for 288 PC. P2 Jose "D3" Lepe and P2 Laurissa "Bus" Hulsebus stakeout another 288'er and take him down after a quick following. Lepe then follows a possible DUI driver with P2 Eric Rose and find him packin' steel in his ride. P2 Steve Hernandez and P2 Edgar Hernandez get a gangster packin' a 9-milli in his waistband... *Oh, my God Edgar!* P2 Danny Arrona and his partner get an Ms'er wanted for rape. P3 Andy "Buzz" Taylor and his boot P1 Ken Guterrez get a Rockwood pelon tryin' to toss a strap...P2 Pete "Chops" Miranda and P2 Thomas "T2" Loera get a wankster with a pistola. *You're only as good as your last caper!*

If you have a noteworthy caper, drop a copy on my desk and I'll make you famous!

R/C to SWAT Call Out!

In the early morning hours of AM's, P3 Paul "Paulie" Lopez and his boot P1 Mark Fassam responded to a 211 radio call. A passing motorist saw a few armed suspects enter a large drug store and overtake a few employees. An unreported stolen outta SOE division was left in front with the engine still running. Expecting the worse, the coppers immediately set up a containment of the large store and went thru the motions. Even Cops Dial 911... 'cuz our policy tells us too! SWAT responded and searched the location to discover the suspects were no longer inside. Yet, Paulie knew the Rampart containment was tight and the bad guys were definitely in it. A sys-



Chief Bratton with the mighty Rampart SLO's!

tematic search of the outskirts of the store proved to be successful. Metro found 3 whimpering South Central gangsters hiding in a trash compactor of a neighboring business. Property taken from their robberies of the store and employees was recovered along with a stolen handgun. Quick tactics, a disciplined containment and commitment to ensuring public safety by Rampart officers ended in the capture of a few violent street predators. Nice work, guys...

G.E.D.

Two Rampart gang coppers were in court on a gang related case. P2 Danny Arrona and his partner immediately eyed a female...and recognized her to be a member of a gang. She copped out to harboring a Code-6 Chuck gangster. Detectives met with her and noticed she matched the description of an outstanding Rampart armed robbery suspect. A local liquor store owner later ID'd her as the suspect who robbed her at gunpoint. A search warrant was written. Rampart's Gang Enforcement Detail derived a tactical game plan to execute the search/arrest warrant. At the crack of dawn, outfitted in helmets and armed with shotguns...the "Stick" moved toward its target location in the hills of an outskirt division. A groggy robbery suspect was hooked up along with the felony warrant suspect. An investigation was conducted at Detectives and incriminating statements were obtained. Coppers and Detectives worked together to take gun slinger predators off our

Rampart streets.

Senior Leaders

You've seen their office and probably even used their computers...Rampart's Senior Lead Officers work day in and day out to solve community problems and concerns. Held responsible for their specific areas, SLO's are tasked with handling citizen complaints regarding everything from narcotic suspects and gang activity to illegal street swap-meets and loud ice cream trucks. Often a thankless job, rest assured... Rampart SLO's are top-notch and take care of the riff-raff so we don't have to! Thanks, guys...

Thanks MS, LAPD

You gotta love it when a plan just works out...P3 Matt "Ziggy" Zeigler and P2 Damien Levesque got some intel from FES that a Mara gangster was runnin' a Meth lab outta his house. Ziggy and DL found the MS'er, conveniently on probation, walking down the street and hooked him up pending further. A quick follow up to the pad ensued for a routine probation search. With a sobbing hardcore Mara shot-caller standing by, coppers recovered the Rampart lottery...dope, money and a gun. Mara lost a ton of freshly cut wafers, uncut pancake size wafers, over a grand in cold hard cash, and a strap. A thank you note was left, the doors locked shut and an MS'er was hauled off to the Glass House. Good job, boys... Dennis would be so proud!

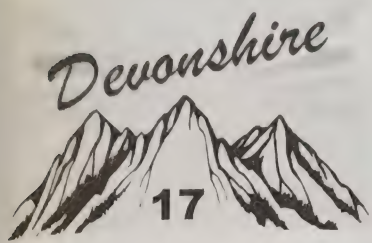
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by Sgt. Rudy Santos
Devonshire Division

We at Devonshire join the rest of our brother and sister officers in mourning the loss of Officer **Ricardo Lizarraga**. As for the killer of our brother officer, he had an expedited appointment with judgment day.

The Women of Devonshire

Looking at magazine covers at a local bookstore, I couldn't help but to notice that just about every major publication had a swimsuit issue. I stayed up all night thinking how I could talk the guys that work for me into posing in swim trunks so as to have the Devonshire section of the *Blue Line* display our pictures. I could see it now, me being interviewed by Internal Affairs and being asked how I got these manly men to pose in skimpy swim trunks as they threw the medicine ball to each other at the beach. With soft, rolling waves in the background and beach blankets with picnic baskets on them, seagulls would



occasionally fly by as the sun set beautifully in the horizon. Well, so much for that idea.

I then decided to see if the women who work in the area office would be willing to "participate" in my artistic idea. I presented my idea to seven of our greatest female employees gathered in the area office. All I remember is everything going dark. When I woke up, I had a lump on my head and someone was handing me a glass of water. After further meticulous negotiations, it was agreed upon that I could submit a picture of their choosing.

Devonshire happens to have some of the best support personnel of any division. Like everything here, the area office is a mixture of professionalism, efficiency, with a heavy dose of good humor. In the picture, starting from left to right on the top row, we have Queen Bee/Management Analyst II **Nancy Crossley**. She is in charge of area office administrative operations. Next is Officer **Amy Standage** who is the assistant captain's adjutant. Next to Amy is

Officer **Stacy Kuntz**, the property disposition officer. And at the end of the row is Clerk Typist/Overtime Queen **Bernice Navarro**. On the bottom row from left to right is Police Student Worker **Andrea Carpenter**. Next to her is none other than Officer **Dora Lantz**. And finally, there is PSR **Lisa Brousseau**. Now before any of you guys start putting in transfers to Devonshire, I must warn you that I had this picture "heavily" touched up by a film technician I know at a special effects studio.

What a Great Looking Baby!

I have to admit that every time I get a baby picture I close both eyes then slowly open one at a time so as not to shock my little system. All baby pictures I have seen range from very nice looking to



very cute. I did see one baby picture that made me gasp in horror. I was more surprised when my mother told me it was a picture of me.

I recently received a baby picture that made me give it a second look. It is of a little angel with some of the world's biggest eyes and a super smile. The baby is Breeanna Nicole Hawking. She was born on 7/30/04 and weighed 10 lbs. and 12 ozs. This baby belongs to our Officer **Diane Hawking** and her husband, Mr. Daniel Hawking. Older sisters Vanessa and Melissa must be hard at work helping to take care of their new little sister.

A Farewell and a Welcome

On February 25, Devonshire hosted a big going away luncheon for Captain **John "The Sherminator" Sherman**. After being at Devonshire for about three years, he is leaving us to go to Rampage Division. In his place will be Captain **Anita Ortega** who has a reputation for being a star athlete at UCLA and the LAPD. Capt. **Ortega** is a Division 1 Women's Basketball official. She has competed in the Police Olympics in basketball and racquetball. She is even in the UCLA and LAPD hall of fame.

Devonshire now has its share of star athletes. Capt. **Ortega** excels in team sports, Capt. **Curreri** is heavily involved in running and weightlifting, and I have recently been featured in a muscle magazine as the "before" picture. ♦

PRDeez Notes

by Adam N. Broderick
Planning and Research Division

H & G's (hi's and goodbyes)

Whew, I guess it's back to work for me. For the millions and millions (give or take) that eagerly await this article each month, surely you noticed there was no March entry. With all the stress and strain of the sergeant orals, I had to skip one. So sorry, but really, can't we just move on?

PRD eastside received three bodies in the past few months. Welcome aboard to Officer **Mark Hernandez**, Sgt. **Dana Berns** and welcome back to Secretary **Martha Reyes**.

Over the Westside, we welcomed Sgt. **Jiro Oka** to the Evaluation Unit, while Sgt. **Willie Mann** took a short walk across the hall to become the leader of the entire free world of Special Projects Unit.

Other Stuff

Brr...it's cold around here with the freeze and all. We keep a bonfire constantly burning to keep us thawed out. And just what do we use for fuel, you ask? HOT projects, of course.

In the category of "it's not what you know, it's who you know," Officer **Troy Collins** knew somebody working on the set of "NYPD Blue." During filming in the downtown area, Troy led a field trip to meet the cast and crew. Check out the picture of PRD



NYPD Blue?

Westside and actor Dennis Franz. Cool, huh?

I don't know if it's just that time of year or what, but there's a fundraising epidemic up in here. How many chocolate rabbits, cookies or stuffed animals does one person really need anyway? One of the funniest displays I came across was a box of king-sized candy bars with a sign that read "fat free" and "low carbs." C'mon now, did you really think we'd fall for that? Does anyone else feel the pain of obligation? Are you one of those people hustling your coworkers? If so, do you feel any guilt at all? I refuse to support this assault on my checkbook. Hmm, it did say low carb though. Maybe I'll have to try one of those tasty candy bars. One can't be bad for you, right? And it is for a good cause. No, wait. Resist the temptation. Resist!

Mysteries Revealed

Take a walk with me down memory lane as we look back at Special Order 32, 2003 (and no, it's not the tattoo order). One of the issues this order addressed was the wearing of the American flag or DARE America flag pin on the uniform shirt. I have seen uniformed personnel wearing it on the right side, left side, inside, outside, upside and downside. The reason I notice this is because at one time I too wore it in the wrong spot (oh, and also because I'm an admin. geek). So where does it go? Per the order: "...the pin is to be worn on the uniform left breast pocket flap, 3/4 inch below the top seam

and 3/4 inch in from the outside edge of the flap." Basically you pin it on your pocket flap, under your badge and to the left. Pass it on.

Recruitment Drive

Quick, someone call OPG tow. The freeze has us stuck here...UFN. Until next time...C-ya. ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

First to Know, Last to Go!

Department Command Post
& Communications Div.

by Lt. Chuck Mealey

Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC) Grand Opening

On February 23, the official grand opening of the VCDC drew many VIPs as well as members of the community. The event featured comments by Police Chief Bratton as well as Mayor James Hahn. Several members of the City Council attended and met with some of the 128 personnel now assigned to the

Valley Dispatch Center. The news media was out in force to see the new technology. We would like to say thanks to Capt. Andy Smith, Lt. Stan Ludwig, and the valley PSRs for their hard work



Senior PSR-II Marie Mardesch and Sgt. Greg Doyle enjoy the new Valley Dispatch Center.

in making the dedication a success.

Sgt. Mulvilhill on 2nd Tour of Iraq

Sgt. II Matt Mulvilhill who is now assigned to ECCCS Division has left for

his second tour of Iraq. Matt returned in October from his first tour of duty. He shipped out February 22 enroute to Germany and then Kuwait. Matt expects to be in Iraq until August working in his Civil Affairs Unit. Everyone at Communications Division wishes him a safe and quick return.

Senior PSR Getting Ready to Retire

Almost everyone knows Senior PSR Laura Robles as the no-nonsense and utterly professional individual who has trained numerous members of the department over the years in the finer points of police dispatching. Well Laura is talking about retirement this year (her 35+ year). Be sure to look for retirement flyers later in the year.



Mayor and Chief cut the ribbon opening the Dispatch Center.



Chief Bratton and city leaders honor the PSRs working the Valley Dispatch.



by Thomas Mason
West Valley Division

EOW P.O. II Ricardo Lizarraga

As everyone is well aware, we lost a brother officer, Ricardo Lizarraga, from Newton Area. It had been a long time since an officer had been murdered, and the sickening feeling of losing a fellow officer again rose in the pit of our stomachs. Although all of us wear the uniform of this Department and realize the risks involved, we dread the day when this happens. West Valley Area attended the funeral with approximately 30 officers from Patrol, Detectives, Narcotics and GED. It was a beautiful ceremony, and to see the thousands of

officers who attended to pay their respects was just overwhelming. Several West Valley Area officers and civilian personnel signed a sympathy card and raised \$500, which was given to Liz's surviving spouse. Liz has three classmates at West Valley Area, P.O. II Matt Wortman, P.O. II Tom Trandall, and P.O. II Bryan Goland. Bryan was Liz's best friend and a pallbearer at the funeral. Bryan, with the support of his friends and family, has been able to make it through this very difficult time.



Triple 187 Suspect Arrest

On January 20, P.O. II Wayne Edwards and P.O. II Merrill Dunn received information of a wanted triple 187 suspect. Sgt. Scott Murray, Dunn and Edwards (no relation to a paint com-

pany) established a surveillance of the suspect's whereabouts. They observed a car backed into the driveway of a residence and saw a female enter the car. They stopped the car, and through a highly skilled police investigation they located the 187 suspect in the trunk. Their tactics kept them safe, because concealed beneath the suspect were 9mm and .45 caliber handguns. The original information was received from officers within our Property Crimes Detail Unit. A great case of patrol and detectives working with one another.

Operation "Finding SIMBA"

Do pet detectives only exist in the movies? Nope. P.O. II John Dunlop of the Property Crimes Detail was investigating a burglary in which the dreaded bad guys took a child's little Chihuahua. Dunlop, being the canine, feline, and whale-loving guy that he is, took it upon himself to locate "Simba." If you ever saw the movie, you would know that Simba was an adorable little lion, but as you can see in the photo, this Simba was an adorable little Chihuahua that John took a liking to. When John returned Simba to the family, the father was so

overwhelmed that they thought they would have to call an ambulance for him. So, Pet Detective I John Dunlop is available from West Valley Area.



Second Annual West Valley Area Reunion

On Friday, June 4, 11:30 a.m., West Valley will be holding its second reunion. There will be an update by Facilities Management Division regarding the construction of the new station. A hamburger and hot dog barbecue will be provided for a cost of \$5. We look forward to seeing you. RSVP to Sgt. Ralph Morales or Officer Steve Whitclaw at 756-8406.

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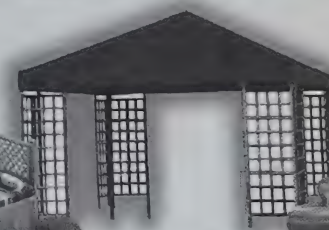
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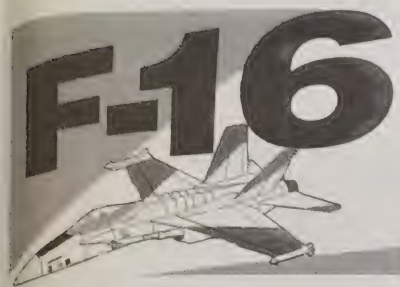
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by Julian Almaraz
Foothill Division

Foothill Patrol

Foothill officers are working with less to keep the crimes down by 20 percent, by using their knowledge and skills they have developed on the job. Officers are deploying decoy vehicles at problem traffic and high crime areas. Officers are stepping up the citations and educating the public on the traffic safety. All officers are doing a great job to keep the community safe from this illegal activity.

I would like to thank all the supervisors who wrote commendations for the officers who received their life saving awards: Officer **Il Rolando Rodriguez**, Officer **Rob Plourde**, Officer **Larry Martinez**, Officer **John Izzo**, Officer

Edward Yates and Officer **Matthew Fryer**. It had been several years since officers of this Department have been honored for their dedication to their job and the community. The prior leadership ignored these great officers' outstanding works of kindness for the last five years. The changing of the guard has proved to have a great leader, our new Chief **Bratton**, who cares about his working officers and the community.

Foothill Vice

We would like to thank Vice Sgt. **Joe Kalyn** and his unit for flexing their hours, to address the theft from motor vehicle suspects, students that are not in school, truancy task forces and looking for warrant suspects. Again thanks for adjusting your time to help us out.

Foothill Narcotics

FES Unit is hard at work conducting investigations of narcotic activity in the increased property crime area. The narcotic suspects need to supply their habits, so they break into vehicles, houses and businesses to feed their habit. FES officers are arresting these suspects and are tasked to monitor juvenile activity and warrant suspects to suppress all related crimes. The officers are assigned

directed areas for possible suspects and always flexing their hours. Great job, guys.

Foothill Detectives

These detectives are working with less due to the IOD injuries and retirements. Some of the detectives' tables are doubled up to address all of the community issues and to solve all the type of crimes to arrest suspects and to recover the victims' property. These detectives continue to work smarter and with less. The detectives are also working one day a month in patrol to help the patrol force. Again I thank the detectives for the help in patrol and helping the community.

Foothill SLOs

Foothill SLOs are team players by working patrol one day a week and going out another day as a warrant detail to locate wanted persons in problem areas in the divisions. They also help the detectives run all parolees (over 1,000) in the area to track the property suspects. They also work with the warrant detail to conduct checks of these parolees. Besides these tasks, SLOs continue to work with the community with their quality of life issues and communi-

ty meetings.

Foothill Legions

On Monday, April 12, 2003, the retired and current Foothill officers are having a get-together at 1700 hours at Bergies on the 14 Freeway and Sand Canyon. Retired P-2 **Doug Burns** is putting this together. All legions are welcome. I just had breakfast with these Foothill heroes who knew how to do old fashioned police work. I told them that some of our leaders are going back to the ways of the past to help solve crime. Present time if you make one felony arrest a week, you're working hard and you get commendation. In the past, if you didn't make a felon arrest, mover, FI or didn't handle your area each day, you were letting the watch down. In the past you had less paperwork and less documentation. Every report now has at least five pages or more to protect the Department and you. In the past, you are given an attabooy and told you are getting paid to put bad people in jail. We had fun working as a team during our watches, and these officers had respect from all the criminals. See all of you soon. ♦



*Thieves Can't Hide,
Because We're City Wide*

by Sam Moreno

The tension hung in the Chinese restaurant like the rich odor of won ton soup as Capt. **Szymanski** asked for the "envelope please." With shaking, sweaty hands, he opened the envelope and announced each of the names. The winners galloped to the podium and made their acceptance speeches, gleefully thanking their agents, lawyers, mothers, fathers, various pets and

LAPPL defense representatives. The losers wore their sulking aching hearts on their sleeves, some of them vowing that next year it would be different, that they would crack the "big case" and get the free Chinese lunch they so richly deserve.

Okay, could be that it didn't go down that way. I don't know, because I wasn't there. But rumor has it that some well-deserving Department employees received some recognition this past month for work well done during the previous year.

So without further ado, the winners are (drum roll please): **Nick Spathopolis**, assigned to the Real Estate Unit and winner of the prestigious Vic Elliot Award, which is given to the outstanding Fraud or Forgery Investigator; **Yvette Moreno** and **La'Wayne Stiff**, who worked as partners in the Commercial Auto Theft Section, and subsequently were co-recipients of the Detective of the Year

Award, which is given to the outstanding investigator assigned to the sections formally known as Burglary Auto Theft Division Section.

Ali Alcantar, **Adriana Rodriguez**, and **Celia Mora**, the hard-working backbone of Commercial Crimes Division, all received the Civilian Employee of the Year Award. Let's face it, without them our division would be a mess.

One of my sources, whom shall remain strictly nameless, unless ordered by someone above the rank of recruit to say otherwise, told me that he or she heard some scuttlebutt from the busboy, who heard it from the cook, who got it from the waitress, who got an "overhear" from some of the award winners talking about how well they worked their "circle of trust." Apparently, Nick submitted Yvette's

name, Yvette submitted La'Wayne's name, and La'Wayne submitted Nick's name. See how that works? These guys are smart, huh? This bit of info is of yet unsubstantiated. The status of the case is Investigation Continued.

On behalf of Commercial Crimes Division, I would like to express our most genuine and deeply felt condolences and sorrow to the family and friends of Police Officer **Ricardo Lizarraga**. To the officers of Newton Area we offer our support and good thoughts. We at Commercial Crimes have never forgotten that we all came from the streets and we respect and admire the men and women who work them day in and day out. Be safe, take care of each other, and have good times with your friends and family during the April holidays. ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

TRAFFIC TALK

by Rudy Baca
South Traffic Division

Fly Guy

Officer **Kevin Cook** has officially transferred out of STD and joined the crew at Air Support Division. Kevin has been on loan but will now be an observer in the skies over Los Angeles. He is



Fly Guy Kevin Cook.

now a seven-year veteran of the police department. Kevin was raised in Northern California and joined the military. Kevin served in the Marine Corps as part of an air crew. Congratulations on getting your observer wings.

Featured BCMC

We have a unique variety of officers at STD. A few issues back we featured the tallest motor cop in LAPD history—**Rick "Too Tall" Roberts**. Then we found out we had Motocross racer **Paul Menchaca**, and now Collision Investigators that fly, **Kevin Cook**. And now I have discovered a new unique "first" at STD.

Facts: The Kawasaki KZ1000 police motorcycle weighs 595 lbs. dry and with empty saddlebags. Officer **Bridgette Robinson** weighs 120 lbs.

I recently had the opportunity to team up and work with Officer Robinson. We met at La Brea and Coliseum. Our assignment: Monitor speed violators and award numerous RADAR and LASER lottery tickets. In between (lottery) tickets, I had a chance to find out a few interesting facts about Bridgette.

In April, 2003, Officer Robinson was the first black female officer to successfully complete LAPD Motor School.



Bridgette Robinson.

Bridgette stands 5'4" tall and weighs as I mentioned before, 120 lbs. It was not easy getting this assignment. She had many obstacles to overcome, mentally and physically. Many told her that she was too small and too short. With a higher than 40 percent failure rate, this is one of the Department's most difficult programs. Bridgette practiced hard. First she started on dirt bikes and gradually to larger street bikes. Any motor cop or motor sergeant will tell you that the other challenge is getting a high score on your oral interview.

No problem. One hundred and forty applied for the position. Ninety-five ranked eligible for Motor School. Bridgette placed number four out of the 95 officers. Top 10 percent!

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, and raised in Southern California, she has a Bachelor's of Arts in sociology and continues to attend California State University, Dominguez Hills, to earn her master's degree.

So I asked Bridgette, "What's next? First female black motor sergeant?" She just smiled and chased after a maximum speed violator. STD is very fortunate to have such a dedicated, hard working officer.

Baker to Vegas

April 23-25, 2004, our lightning fast Baker to Vegas team will be teamed up with Southwest Division. The Palace Hotel & Casino will be our host hotel. Contact Officer **Hills** for further information.



Officer Williams and Officer Gryder.

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
West L.A. Division

Ah, yes, back together again...former partners-in-crime Batman and Robin. Actually, make that **Angel Suliveres** and **Elodia Lopez**, who are part of the new CAT team (Criminal Apprehension). No, this is not a group of cat burglars, but rather a group committed to searching the streets as well as computer databases in search of said cat burglars. Det. **Jim Willis** is the leader of the pack. When asked about the new team, Willis said, "We had five felony arrests, one parole search and the most kick-ass administrative audit this division has ever seen—and that's just in two weeks! Oh, and by the way, we need cars."

Why did he come back? Inquiring minds need to know. **Sergio Guzman** returned to West L.A. a few months ago after being promoted to Sgt. II as the Training Coordinator. He at one time was the Assistant Training Coordinator

under then Sgt. **Rich Mossler**. He later became a Senior Lead Officer (SLO) before being promoted to sergeant where he headed to Rampart Division. It was after he left Rampart and was working as a sergeant at Foothill that he learned of the opening at West L.A. in the training unit. Guzman applied for the position and was pleased when he got the job. He said it was good to see all of the familiar faces that he had left behind, people who have helped him with his new duties. Sergio's favorite core value is "integrity in all we say and do." He said that "integrity goes a long way." He has fond memories of this area as he always had an enjoyable time here and found the people willing to help. Sgt. Guzman has 16 years with the Department. He quipped that knowing that he has **Jim Merle** as a partner has helped him with the transition. Merle, on the other hand, said that he is "clearly motivated by Sgt. Guzman as he brings a certain energy and excitement to the job." When asked about his future goals and aspirations, Guzman said that he is looking forward to getting back into divisional training and offering support to both detective and patrol resources. He still enjoys mountain climbing, so perhaps this year will find him at the top of Mt. Everest along with **Phil Enbody** and **Dennis Hinman**. One of his other recreational activities is

cycling, and he is also looking forward to participating again with the Baker-to-Vegas team. Det. **Randy Fredrickson** said that Sergio was "back, better than



Back by popular demand, West LA's own Sergio Guzman!

ever!" We all agree, so...welcome back! Several P2s have joined us here on the west side recently. They are: **H. Lopez** from 77th, **C. Ornelas** from Harbor, **Y. Villa** from Newton, **H. Won** from NHWD, **J. Tavares** from Rampart, and **H. Sims** from SW. Several probationers have also arrived from the Academy, including **J. Breyer**, **S. Bustos**, **J. Chavez**, **T. Muhammad**, **M. Plata**, **J. Rusth**, **R. Velasco**, and **R. Weidlein**. We hope you will enjoy being here and congratulations.

On February 26, 2004, **Frank (F.P.) Pettinato** was awarded the West Los Angeles Officer of the Year Award at the



Howard Henke shown presenting the West LA Officer of the Year Award to Officer Frank Pettinato.

Southwest and Hollywood before arriving at West L.A. where he has been for several years. (He also worked a couple of short stints in Advanced Planning and Jail Division.) Officer Pettinato was made an honorary "Paul Harris Fellow" where \$1,000 will be donated yearly in Frank's name to a children's polio foundation. West L.A. Reserve Officer **Howard Henke** presented Frank with a plague and a lapel pin as well as a medal. Pettinato's wife and son were on hand for the festivities, which included a salmon luncheon. Congratulations, Frank. See, we can't live without you around here!

Westwood Village Rotary Club luncheon. Frank was recognized for his 37 years on the job and his dedication above and beyond the call of duty. He has received over 70 commendations since entering the police academy on October 23, 1967. Pettinato worked at

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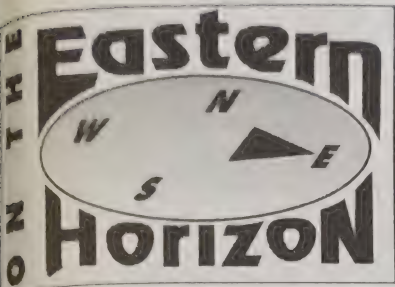
"L.A. WOMEN or HOW TO MAKE BAD BOYS CRY"

If you liked Wambaugh's "The Choirboys", you'll love this LAPD women's side of the story.

The book is based on Marjorie's fifteen years as a personnel analyst and peer counselor with the LAPD. The characters are fictional but her gritty view of the "LAPD Family" creates a scrapbook not easily forgotten. After reading it, you will never look at a female officer quite the same way.

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by Ruben Rodriguez
Hollenbeck Division

As we approach Easter Sunday, I hope you were able to achieve the goals you set for yourself when you made the promise to give up that special "something" for Lent. May you enjoy a wonderful Easter in the company of your loved ones.

Baby Announcement

I am pleased to announce the arrival of Jonathan Nickolas, newborn son of Officer **Maria Roubos** and hubby Paris. Little Jonathan made his presence known on November 20 at precisely 8:23 p.m., weighing in at 7 lbs., 4 oz. while measuring 19.5 inches in length. Baby Jonathan joins an older sister at home who I am sure is now happy to have someone to care for. Maria and Paris, congratulations on your family



addition, and we wish you all the best of luck in the future.

...and Speaking of Babies (and I do mean babies)

As in plural, more than one...heck, even more than two. With all the babies being born on a regular basis to Hollenbeck personnel, Officer **Carolyn Coward** decided she would just get it over with, all at once, by giving birth to triplets. The three-for-the-price-of-one special delivery was dropped off by the stork at the Coward home on October 15, 2003. Let me see if I can get them straight. Ian, being the male in the bunch, decided he would lead the way and entered this world first at 2332 hours, weighing in at 5 lbs., 7 oz. He was followed by Alexandra at 2334 hours, who weighed 5 lbs., 5 oz. Shortly thereafter, baby Emily took her first breath at 2335 hours and weighed in at 4 lbs., 13 oz. Carolyn and proud Dad, fellow LAPD Officer **Neil Coward**, assigned to Metropolitan Division - D Team, are doing well while coping with the quick growth of their family. I guess all that SWAT survival training will sure come in handy right about now. Congratulations, and may your beautiful children have long, happy and healthy lives.



Explorer News

The Hollenbeck Explorers continued their successful ways while recently tak-

ing part in the 6th annual Chandler (AZ) Explorer Tactical Competition. This event consists of a variety of tactical scenarios, pitting numerous law enforcement Explorer posts against each other in fierce competition. The contingency of Hollenbeck Explorers represented us



well at this year's event while taking trophies in three separate tactical competitions. Our Explorers excelled in the "downed officer rescue," the "Rapid Response" scenario, and the "10-man Hostage Rescue." Special thanks go out to Hollenbeck alumni, SWAT Officer **Todd Reingold**, who spent countless hours of his own time preparing these future LAPD officers in the fine art of specialized tactics. Congratulations to these fine individuals, led by Officer **Darcy Cornwell**, whose hard work paid off by bringing home the hardware.

In Military Uniform

PFC **Manuel Martinez**, son of Det. **II Vic Corella**, is a United States Marine and has recently graduated from artillery training at Ft. Still, Oklahoma. Manuel is currently assigned to 1/11th Marines and is stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, where he is a Howitzer gun crewman. He is scheduled to be deployed to Iraq in the very near future, and we wish him a safe and quick return. Manuel, good luck in your deployment, and we promise we will keep your dad safe here on the home front until your return.

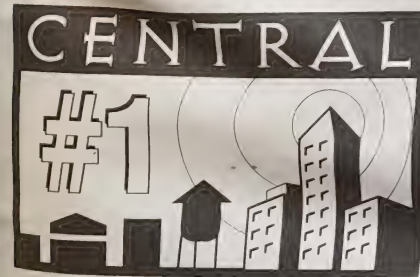


Training Unit

The Hollenbeck Training Unit would like me to pass on some information to you. It seems like the excuse of "I didn't know I had training" will no longer fly. The unit has now instituted a Web site where you can access all your training information as well as training orders, to keep you informed of upcoming as well as available training. This information is now available on the Web at <http://www.hobktraining.com>. The Training Coordination Unit has the responsibility of sending department personnel within their respective area, unit and/or bureau to various training courses on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. They are also responsible for advertising schools for training in specialized topics or updates to existing courses which ultimately keep all personnel POST certified. Hollenbeck's training unit is now available to you on a 24/7 basis. So, as Web master **Bob Garcia** says, there is no excuse not to be informed. To submit information or upcoming events for the Web site, e-mail Bob at hobktraining@aol.com.

Que Paso?

This month's salute goes out to my good buddy, **Gus "Jerry Lewis" Camacho**. What's up with those teeth?



By Marie Kardiban
Central Division

Motorcycle Charity Ride

Yes, it is that time again for the Central City Police Boosters to host the Annual Motorcycle Charity Event. Last year's event was a huge success. We invite everyone to come and help support Central's youth and crime prevention programs. Walk-ins are also welcome to come and enjoy the band, terrific food, and vendors. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Kardiban, Community Relations Office at (213) 972-1876. (See flyer on page 24).

Chocolate Badges

The Deputy Auxiliary Police (DAPS) still have some chocolate badges available to purchase in the Community Relations office. All proceeds go to the DAPS for their outings and programs. Chocolates are gift boxed and are \$8 each or two for \$15. Please contact **Irma Foster** for further information at (213) 972-1877.



Central Reserve Officer for Over 31 Years

By Larry Pratt

On December 30, 2003, **Chuck Valenti** and his wife, Valeria, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Chuck and his wife met at a church-sponsored dance at a young people's club here in Los Angeles. They were later married in La Conner, Washington.

Chuck is a graduate of Loyola University with a B.A. in English and later earned his Master's Degree from California State University. Valeria graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in Textiles, Clothing, and Art Dress Design. She has had designs published in national magazines. Chuck retired from teaching a couple of years ago where not only was he an English teacher, but was very active in track and field. Even to this day he is sometimes called back to the schools to teach or officiate on a substitute basis. Chuck and Valeria have nine children, two of which are sergeants for the LAPD. Chuck and

Valeria's children celebrated their parents' anniversary with a party held at the Orange County Mining Company on December 29. (I hope my children are reading this article.)

Chuck has been a Los Angeles Police Department Reserve Officer at Central for 31-1/2 years, starting back in

October of 1972. I have had the privilege of working with Chuck the past few years. I can't tell you how many bad jokes I have had to endure during this period, but I think I'll file for IOD—hearing loss.

Congratulations, Chuck and Valeria.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

1 Northeast corner

by Susan Carrasco
Northeast Division

Goodbyes!

We have all been blessed in the last 4-1/2 years to work with a very efficient captain. Capt. **Jackson** has made us all work hard and ensured accountability with all of us. Though, we find it hard to see him leave, we know he will be doing the same at Southwest. Good luck, Capt. Jackson. You will be very missed at Northeast.

We also want to welcome Capt. **Smith**. We may not know what to expect, but we are all eager to find out. We hope you enjoy Northeast.

Commendable Capers Detectives -

Det. **Stephenson**, #27898, Officers **Sandeen**, #35978, **Mazzacano**, #34348, **Sanquist**, #33189, and **Quimbata**, #33182 were assigned Criminal Apprehension Team. Stephenson

received information regarding residential burglaries. He also obtained a named suspect. They went to the location the suspect had been residing and observed a parked vehicle. The vehicle had outstanding warrants and was registered to a male, known to Stephenson as a convicted felon. Stephenson phoned the residence and spoke with the suspect. He informed the suspect he would stop by to speak with him. The suspect advised he would wait. A man exited the residence and quickly entered the vehicle. The officers approached the man and detained him. A pat-down search was conducted. A loaded semi-auto handgun was recovered as well as a large bottle of powder cocaine. Black knit gloves, binoculars and a screwdriver were recovered from the vehicle. These items were consistent with the items used in the burglaries. Due to their knowledge and keen observation skills, a dangerous career criminal is behind bars.

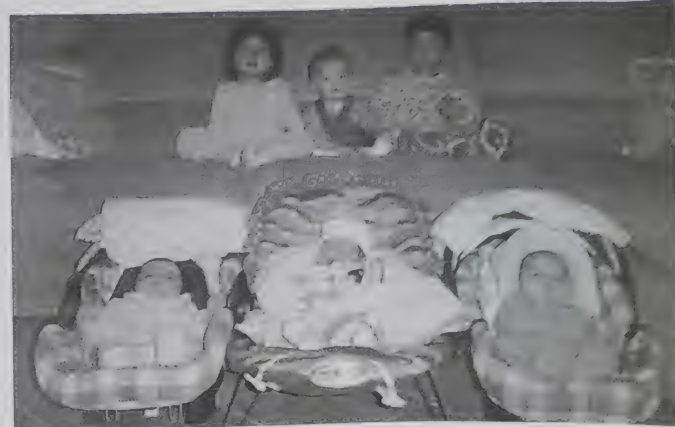
Gang Detail -

Officers **Salcedo**, #34667, **Serrano**, #34668, and **Arteaga**, #32722, were working the gang detail near Drew Street when they observed a hand-to-hand narcotics sales transaction. The officers became involved in a foot pursuit of the suspected dealer. The suspect led the officers on a long foot pursuit

and fled into an occupied apartment unit. The officers followed the suspect to the door and observed a woman inside of the apartment. The woman immediately pointed to the kitchen. The officers entered the kitchen and observed the suspect sitting at the kitchen table. The suspect was taken into custody. The startled and frightened family was very relieved to have him removed from their residence. The outstanding efforts have led to the capture of an ongoing nuisance in the community.

Patrol -

Sgt. **Reyna**, #21163, was patrolling the Northeast area when he observed a woman approach him. The woman appeared shaken and disturbed. She informed Reyna a man at the bus stop had grabbed her buttocks and he was now molesting others. Reyna went to the bus stop and was approached by a woman and her two young children. He was informed the man had grabbed her children and attempted to molest them. The man was still at the location. Reyna immediately detained him. He became



Who's your Daddy? Officers Carlos Langarica, Steve Garcia and Tony Kong are the daddies of these beautiful babies. But what child belongs to what daddy?

enraged and began to yell out threats of death to the woman and children. The man was arrested for his offense. The man pled guilty in court and was sentenced to three years.

New Arrivals

Northeast is a very family-oriented community. I had reported last month many of our officers had new arrivals last year. Featured in the new arrival photo are the children of three of our officers. The answer to the caption question is, from top left: Vanessa Langarica, four years; Adam Kong, nine months; and Gabriel Garcia, three years. Bottom left: Amanda Garcia, six months; Christian Langarica, 2 months; and Giovanni Garcia, six months.

Congratulations to all the officers and their families!



by Larry Wehage
Newton Division

Our Luck Finally Ran Out

After 58 years, our luck ran out. Since December of 1945, Newton has not had to bury one of its family members. That all changed on February 20. On that date, an evil puzzle was being put together by forces unknown, requiring piece after piece to be matched up for this situation to occur. **Ricardo Lizarraga** and **Joel Ruiz** had to be at that location to be flagged down by a distraught citizen. They had to be dedicated enough to immediately assist her

rather than call for a unit from that particular division to handle the call. They had to enter the location in such a way that the evildoer had an advantage. The evildoer had to have a mindset that made him act in a very desperate way. Indeed, the evil puzzle was falling into place. The desperado needed no time to make up his mind. He was not going to jail. He probably made up his mind long before the officers arrived. Ricky had worked the area while on probation. He went in first. Whatever happened in those few seconds may never be known. However, when all was said and done, Ricky was hit twice with large caliber bullets, both in vital locations. He didn't have a chance. The coward shot him in the back and side.

It had nothing to do with the number 13, Newton's number. It had nothing to do with walking under a ladder or seeing a black cat run in front of our police car. It was not voodoo nor was it karma. It was a series of events that had to take place in such a way that resulted in the evil puzzle finally assembling.

We must learn why those pieces fell into place as they did. We are strong enough to view these puzzle pieces

without anger. We must go forward. That is the way I believe Rick would want it.

Captain Maeweather Transferred Out; Retires

After four plus years as the Commanding Officer of Newton Area, Capt. **Thomas "Reggie" Maeweather** received notice that he was being transferred to the Office of Operations. During a week of reflection, he made up his mind that he would retire rather than be cooped up in a Parker Center office. His plans are many, I'm sure, but sailing is definitely in that plan.

Captain Kane Arrives at Newton

With the transfer and retirement of Reggie Maeweather, Capt. **Sean Kane** recently arrived at Newton from CIID to take the helm of this ship. Welcome aboard.

You Might be a Newton Cop

It's tough to add a little comic relief during such sad times for Newton. However, this is what we do to get past the hurt. Several e-mails from past Newtonites indicated that the humor dis-

played in the "You Might be a Newton Cop" section was funny and they asked for more. Here goes:

If your uniform tie has spilled chili on it, you might be a Newton cop.

If you see multiple three-legged dogs during a single shift, you might be a Newton cop.

If you ever lived at 10th and Towne, you might be a Newton cop.

If you have never written the word "lingerie" in a report, you might be a Newton cop.

If your last search warrant included the need to search a cardboard residence, you might be a Newton cop.

If you ever had to secure a found goat in a detention cell, you might be a Newton cop.

If you ever were in pursuit of a runaway bull in the L.A. river, you might be a Newton cop.

If your I.Q. is equal to the temperature outside, you might be a Newton cop.

If someone takes a bite out of your sandwich, then replaces it in your lunch bag, you might be a Newton cop.

You can reach me at lwchage@aol.com.

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by Officer Mark L. Horton
Recruitment Section

Fit Photo

On Friday, February 20, 2004, Recruit officers had an opportunity to pose with former bodybuilder/Incredible Hulk Lou Ferrigno at L.A.'s premier bodybuilding and fitness event at the Pasadena Civic Center for a three-day Fitness Expo. Pictured to the left of Mr. Ferrigno is Officer Horton, #30170, and to the right of him is Officer Hajewski, #24098.



Congratulations

On Friday, Officer Joe Dyer, #31558, made a bold move and proposed to his significant other of six years, April Armstrong. For more details you can contact Officer Dyer at Recruitment section. Way to go, Joe. Congratulations, and now the fun really begins. Pictured is April on the left and Joe on the right.



LAPD & LAFD Expo

On Sunday, February 29, 2004, the Crenshaw Christian Center hosted the

8th LAPD & LAFD Expo. There were approximately 4,000 parishioners at service that morning, all of whom participated in the festivities. We had approximately 104 candidates take the written exam. RED would like to thank all LAPD personnel that attended and assisted in making this event a tremendous success.

Southern Tip

by Cumbia Cop
Harbor Division

Comings and Goings

Transfer Order #3 brought us some small changes with the following personnel leaving us and joining us. First off, farewell to new P-2 Christopher Ornelas who headed west. West L.A. Division, that is. Coming into Harbor Division from 77th Division was P-2 Craig Bond; in from Hollenbeck Division was P-2 Amber Dickey; a three-fer from Newton Division were P-2s Mynerva Gramillo, Jorge Gutierrez, and Michael Tolmaire; P-2 Anthony Cole came to us from Southwest Division; and a two-fer from Wilshire Division were P-2s Tyler

Boling and David Holmes. Rounding out the incoming changes were the following folks from Training Division: P-1s Christopher Burke, Brian Hadley, Justin Pores, and Officer Steven Cardenas. Good luck to all of you. Welcome and so long for now.

Employee of the Year Luncheon

On Wednesday, February 25, 2004, we had our annual banquet honoring a number of outstanding folks that take care of business in the Harbor. It took place at the beautiful Banning's Landing Community Center in Wilmington, right at the water's edge. The delicious food was catered by local Mexican restaurant, Azteca, and the rest of the work was completed by the Harbor CRO unit, the Harbor SLOs, and our very own Harbor LITES volunteer crew.



Captain Gannon and the Harbor L.I.T.E.S.

Lots of folks were in attendance, some of the local refineries and



(L to R) Capt. Pesqueira, Officer Boccanfuso, civilian Kelly Gage, volunteer "Smitty", Explorer Gutierrez, Reserve Officer Mairena, Det. Lott, Sgt. Forman, and Capt. Gannon.

businesspeople, with plenty of officers and detectives alike. This year we had some very well-deserving sworn and civilians receive the awards, starting off with Explorer of the Year given to the young and ambitious Juan Gutierrez. Volunteer of the Year went to my favorite, Robert "Smitty" Smith or also known to us as "Sarge." Civilian of the Year went to another great guy, garage mechanic supervisor Kelly Gage, who keeps



Officer of the Year 2003 Giovanni Boccanfuso with his daughter.

things always running smooth. Reserve Officer of the Year was given to the squared-away Officer Domingo Mairena. Detective of the Year went to the handsome Det. I David Lott for his hard work at the MAC table. Sergeant of the Year went to our Training Coordinator, Sgt. II William "Bill" Foreman for his dedication in keeping our officers well trained and up to date. And last but not least, the Officer of the Year for 2003 went to P-II Giovanni Boccanfuso for hard work and dedication. Congratulations to one and all.

In Closing

Harbor Division would like to extend our most deep and heartfelt condolences to the family of P.O. Ricardo Lizarraga. It is never an easy time for any one of us, when we lose a brother in blue. We know the guardian angels in heaven greeted Ricardo into their ranks with warm and open arms, and are happy to have him at their side, protecting and serving for the Big Chief in the Sky. Please, always remember to be smart, be sure, be safe, be sound, and always keep on dancing.

All R-Round Town

by Cathy Hardy
Metropolitan Division

Chocoholics of the world unite! Chocolate, it's not just for breakfast anymore! Happy Easter.

Good OBVS

Thank you to former SWAT Dog Enoch McClain for accurately identifying the unknown SWAT officer in the retro photograph in last month's edition. The officer second from the left is Rick Kellenberger.

Welcome Back

Returned to duty and crossed off the injured reserve list are Chuck Wohlfeiler, Chris Yzaguirre and Tony "Chip" Samuelson. Chip, you are back just in time for B-V.

Hold the Phone!

Ladies and gentlemen, the news I am

about to report is shocking but true. Metro's phone numbers have changed! After decades the revered extension 4091 can no longer be dialed from any type of access line across America or foreign territory. Many a gallant effort was exhausted attempting to save the four digits you could always remember no matter how many beers you may have consumed. KMA, it's done. The new phone number is (213) 972-2420. The good news is the division is still called Metro.

Not Any Given Training Day

During DP #2, the Division hosted a training day and recognized a notable few with esteemed divisional honors. In addition to the Kesterson Award, Sonlitner Award, and Pagliotti Award, the Division established the Metropolitan Meritorious Service Award in 2002. A few notes on the men behind the honors that bear their names. Joseph Sonlitner worked Metropolitan Division in the mid-'60s as a sergeant and later in the 1960s as a lieutenant. The award that honors his legacy today acknowledges Metro officers whose leadership qualities and consummate professional demeanor set precedence. Lt. Sonlitner was a mentor, teacher and a true leader who set the standard for Metropolitan Division command, honor

and distinction. The 2003 Sonlitner Award was bestowed upon Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Buttitta, K9-50 and P3+1 Jesus "Jesse" Garcia, B Platoon.

From the beginning, distinguished gentlemen and warriors have served Metropolitan Division. The 1940s began the second official decade of the division. Walter Kesterson was one of the first policemen to serve on the Reserve Detail during the '40s era. On February 4, 1946, Officer Kesterson became involved in a fierce gun battle with two armed robbery suspects. Kesterson was struck by rounds from both suspects. Displaying paramount determination to survive in the face of imminent danger, Officer Kesterson returned fire, striking each suspect, killing them both. Officer Kesterson subsequently died as the result of his gunshot wounds, becoming the first Metropolitan Division officer to be killed in the line of duty.

Officer James Pagliotti was assigned a special "target" surveillance detail in Foothill Division on June 22, 1987. While setting up his OP location, Officer Pagliotti was confronted by two armed suspects. In the midst of impending peril, Officer Pagliotti engaged both

suspects as he was struck by fatal gunfire. The Pagliotti Award was established to honor his distinguished act of courage and supreme will to survive during the most perilous situations.

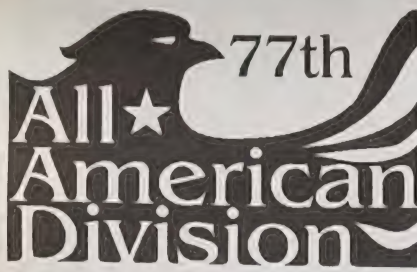
The C Platoon "Jimmy P" Award honors a C Platoon members who not only display extraordinary valor during the most lethal circumstances, but also embody the spirit, integrity and demeanor of Officer Pagliotti. (Officer Ray Nonora, February Blue.)

The 2003 divisional Kesterson/Pagliotti salutes were awarded to P3 Richard Alba, D Team, and P3 Troy Thomas, D Team. The Metropolitan Division Meritorious Service Award was established to honor those within the Division whose continued dedication to duty, job commitment, invaluable institutional knowledge of Metro operations and loyalty to the "Metro Tradition" is second nature. They represent the thread upon which this great Division is woven. They inspire all of us to always give 110 percent. The 2003 recipient of the Meritorious Service Award is P3 Robert Valdez, E Platoon. Congratulations to all our distinguished award recipients.

Until next time, R-10 girl, clear.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

We Are All Blue

On February 20, 77th Street, along with Newton, suffered a tragic loss of a partner, peer and friend. Officer **Ricardo Lizarraga**, #36046, lost his life tragically in a gun battle with a parolee at 1743 W. 48th St. Incidents like this make no sense, and the healing process will take time, and so it is important that we continue to be the professionals that we are in blue and support each other. We've come to learn that Ricky lived a wonderful life, which is why he made such an impression on so many of us! He will be missed and surely remembered. Every day when we come to work we have the privilege to gaze upon a memorial billboard by the station that simply asks: Stop the violence. Ricky's picture is on it with that big smile of his. You can't help but smile too, because of the memories. We then take his memory and his dedication to the LAPD, out onto the streets of 77th just like Ricky would have wanted.

Twenty Percent Crime Reduction

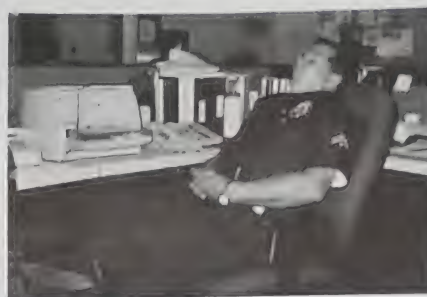
Everybody loves a challenge! In an attempt to reach the Chief's goal, all divisional entities at 77th Street have participated in various crime suppression operations. There was a 290 Sex Registrant task force, Vice task force, warrants served for narcotics-related offenses, truancy task force, curfew task force, and to top it all off, the Senior Lead Officers teamed up during morning watch hours to assist watch 3 with a BFMV crime suppression detail. There are many felons going to jail who need to stay in jail. But then, that is not up to us. So here again, let it be said: "Everyone loves a challenge!"

Can You Work Patrol?

With the inability to deploy all of our basic cars on a daily basis, our uniformed officers who are working in administrative positions will team up with a patrol officer and lend a hand. This has proven to be quite successful in maintaining control in this busy division. It is a perfect example of teamwork, and believe it or not a nice breather for some who do not like to be cooped up in the station all of the time. Thanks to all of you who take some time out to help patrol!

Congratulations

Congratulations PIII **Steve Burciaga**, #27372, on your 4th quarter Officer of the Year Award. Steve has been at 77th



SLO Tim Wunderlich strategizing for the next crime suppression detail.



Officer Art Yanez (W7 Officer of the watch) amazed at our bulletproof doors.

for 13 years and is currently the senior P3 in GED. He is regarded as the assistant squad leader for the remaining 24 officers who make up this unit. Steve possesses and demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities daily. He is a positive role model for the unit and is equally deserving of this award.

DII **John Radke**, #26759, has been selected as the fourth quarter Detective of the Year. John works the gang crimes unit and is a well known gang expert. John has years of experience with 77th Street gangs and provides training to officers and detectives from throughout the western U.S. at various gang conferences. John's expertise has allowed him to solve many gang-related crimes wherein the suspects have been filed upon and heavily sentenced. John's dedication to the community he serves makes him the perfect selection for this 4th quarter honor.

Civilian of the Year Award goes to Principal Clerk Police III **Gloria Jones**. Gloria joined the 77th Street family in 1983. After 36 years of service, on October 31, 2003, Gloria retired from the Los Angeles Police family taking with her countless commendations for all of her hard efforts.

Come One, Come All

77th Street is hosting a retirement barbecue for PIII **Cliff Lloyd**, #20156, at the Harbor Range on Friday, May 14, 2004. We will be doing it up way big for this officer who worked his entire 30 plus career in patrol on the streets fighting crime every day. It is believed that Cliff holds the record for 77th Street. Quite an achievement! We are gonna be doing the traditional barbecue of serving steaks, baked potato, etc., etc.! There

will be plenty of refreshments for everyone! Thirty bucks per person includes the meal, drinks, and gift.

Cliff is a part of a long-standing tradition, and we plan on sending him off with a memorable 77th traditional steak fry! So be sure to put the date on your calendar and code alpha with us at 1700 hours at the Harbor Range. At 1700 hours is cocktail hour, dinner around 1830 hours, and then the party begins! We have a lot of stuff ready for Cliff. Come join us as we say goodbye to a legend! If you have any questions, call the Senior Lead office at (213) 847-2817.

Well, can you believe that the Easter holiday is a few weeks away? All of us hope that you and your family have a safe and joyous Easter. Take some time out of your Easter Sunday and go visit God at his house.

Lt. **Paul von Lutzow**, the legend of 77th Street Area, underwent surgery for his left shoulder. The shoulder surgery went well, but there were severe complications as a result of an error by the anesthesiologist. When von Lutzow was being put under, the tube placed down his throat cut his trachea. He lost a lot of blood and was hospitalized the next day at Huntington Memorial in Pasadena. His personal physician informed him that he was lucky to be alive due to the blood loss from internal bleeding.

He is regaining his strength and is now informing everyone that the ordinary man would not have survived this traumatic ordeal. He still has a long road to recovery from the shoulder surgery and will not be knocking out anyone with that tremendous left hook for a while.

Stay safe and angel blessings! ❖



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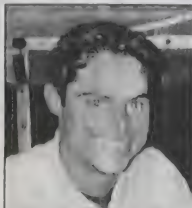
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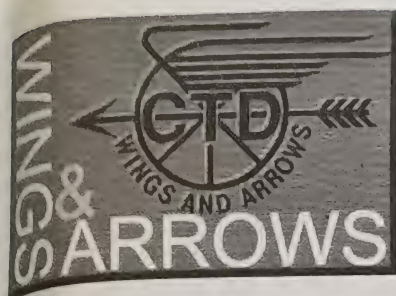
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By Leslie Mariscal
Central Traffic Division

WELCOME!

We welcome our new motor **Sgt McCullum** who comes to us from Devonshire Division and **Clerk Typist D. Aguilar** from Hollenbeck Records.

GOOD-BYE!

Officer T. Hale is now Reserve Officer Hale. Tony may have resigned from the Department but we will still see him around CTD assisting Linda on timekeeping. We wish you all the luck in your new endeavor.

CTD SPORTS

CTD basketball is back. After a long summer camp and an influx of new players and the support of **Capt Meraz** and the station fund committee, Coach **Mike (we have a chance) Morales** has the team at the 500 mark for the first time. The team is led once more by **Rigo (foul shot) Bonilla**, **Eddie (tap it in) Diaz**, **Mike (we have a chance) Morales**, **George (The Plumber) Oto**, **Lloyd (I'll play) Chang** and **Bill (Shaq) McDonald**. The new additions to CTD which have turned things around are **Al (Three Point) Kilgore**, **Sean**



(Admiral) **Laule**, **Robert (Taz) Takanashi**, **Matt (What I do now?) Saenz**, **Marshall (I'll be there) Webb** and **Tim (show time if I show up) Ruiz**. Come out and support the new and exciting team! (All games are now close.)

The CTD Basketball team now has a winning record and a two game winning streak. The team was led by **Al Kilgore's** three point shot along with an all out team effort by **Rigo**, **Eddie**, **Matt**, **Bob**, **George**, and **Mike**.

CTD RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to **Reserve Officer Dave Genders #R1840** who was nominated by his peers for CTD Reserve Officer of the Year. Genders is **Officer Fox's** right hand man and keeps the communication between the reserves flowing. He is a conscientious and hard working person who puts forth that extra effort that makes CTD reserves stand above the rest. Thank you for helping our reserves shine!

OH BABY!

Officer Craig Marquez and his wife are the proud parents of a lovely baby boy. Happy bonding leave!



Congratulations also to **Officer Tony Hale** for the arrival his little one who he proudly named **Ozzie**.

Officer Ana Garza was given a surprise baby shower and received many lovely gifts for her future daughter. Thanks to the efforts of **Officer Martha Garcia** and **Linda Zepeda**, the party was a complete success cake and all.

CTD Baker to Vegas Running Team, It's all for Fun!

Thanks to all those who volunteered to run and support the CTD Baker to Vegas team. **Officer Carlisle** and **Officer Belmonte** have put together a fun team for all those who want to participate in the event but are not concerned about where we place in the race. We have had an overwhelming amount of support not just from CTD but from outside as well. Good luck to our run-

ners whether you run, walk or crawl, as long as you HAVE FUN!!!

1st Annual CTD Motorcycle Ride

On February 9, 2004, **Sgt Tom Tavares** held the first of hopefully many motorcycle rides for CTD's **Billy (Mac) McDonald**, his son **Andrew**, **Covina Police Officer Gregg Meyer**, **Sgt Tavares** and yours truly **Sgt Bill Urrutia**. The ride began from old San Dimas and took us to Tom's Farms in the hills of Corona and Glenn Ivy. Next we stopped at beautiful Temecula's Old Town and had lunch at Texas Lil's. After walking around for a bit we got back on our bikes and returned to Ortega Highway, Route 74 for those of you that know it and had a go at it's sharp curves and beautiful scenery from Lake Elsinore to San Juan Capistrano where we took in the charm of the old Spanish town and Jail Box. Next, we were off to Laguna and Ruby's diner for a snack and



than the journey home. The day could not have been better nor the camaraderie shared between the riders been so well established in so short a time. It was a small gathering this time, maybe it will increase for the times to come. ❖


More Divisional Reporter on next page

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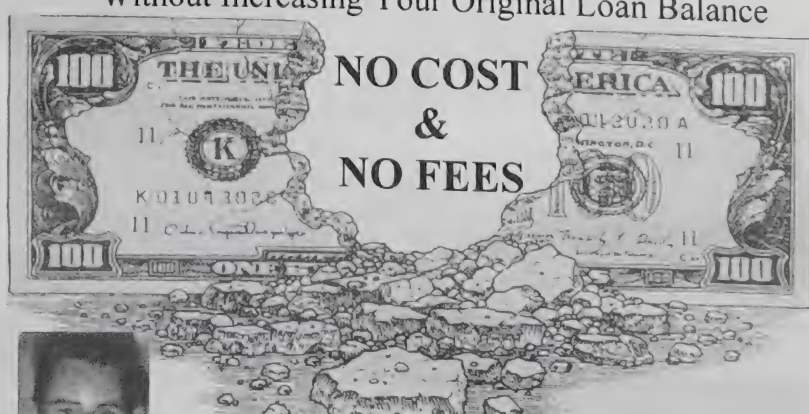


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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



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Letters from the Front Lines

TAX DEADLINE? Members of the armed forces (guard & reserve) currently serving outside the United States in support of the war effort, are exempt from filing their 2003 tax returns until they are back stateside. I am not a tax expert and there is not sufficient space in this article to do this subject justice, therefore, please visit the "Official" Internal Revenue Service (IRS) web site at www.irs.gov or call the **Camp Pendleton Tax Center** at 760-763-2518. Along with many requests for assistance and information, I receive e-mails (letters) from several employees serving on the front lines in the "War on Terrorism." Just the other day I received an e-mail from **Detective Craig Taylor**, a Staff Sergeant in the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion, currently serving in Iraq. In this e-mail Det. Taylor made several references to fellow LAPD officers also serving in Iraq. As I was reading this correspondence I couldn't help but think back to a past assignment I had with the **William H. Parker Los**

Angeles Police Foundation. At the Parker Foundation one of my duties was caretaker of Chief Parker's artifacts and his personnel/professional papers. As I cataloged the various documents, I would review them for content. Part of the collection consisted of "letters from the Front Lines" from Captain Parker to his wife Helen. He too would make reference to LAPD officers that he would come in contact with overseas during World War II. As with Det. Taylor, Parker would inquire as to how the Department was doing and ask about personnel here at home. Although many things have changed since World War II, others remain very much the same. The duties of the Military Liaison Officer were needed just as much if not more, back in the 1940's. When Captain Parker returned to the post war Department, he took it upon himself to push for much needed changes in City/Department policies and benefits as they related to the returning military veterans. The City/Department's handling of issues in regards to military reserve/guard personnel and veterans, is an ever-changing positive evolution. The creation of the Military Liaison officer position by Chief Bratton is an example of one of those positive steps in this evolution. By having a full time position to oversee military benefits and services, the Department can ensure enhanced and consistent treatment of our employees serving in the military reserve components, including veterans. Additional benefits to the Department are increased morale, reduced redundancy of Department resources and provide better employee and family support. Since taking this assignment as the Military Liaison Officer, I have learned just what an outstanding job the City/Department has been doing with regards to support of our employees in the Guard and Reserves. There is an important web site that deals with this very concern, it is www.esgr.com. The ESGR stands for Employer Support of

the Guard and Reserves. This is a Federally supported organization that is responsible for assisting employers and employees deal with a multitude of complicated laws, issues and responsibilities as they pertain to military service. I highly recommend every employee, their family members and Department supervisors review this web site (add it to your favorites) to gain a better understanding of the responsibilities, services and benefits of military service. The Department and the ESGR have begun a partnership to constantly strive for superior service to our military employees and their families. When you visit this web site, please review the "Outstanding Employers" page and take note of our Department's proud standing amongst the who's-who of corporate America. The LAPD is the first "non-corporate" employer to be featured on this coveted page. As I was reviewing this informative web site recently, I came across another web site that deserves a moment of your time. The site is; www.heromiles.org. It provides assistance and information on obtaining **FREE Frequent Flyer Miles** for military personnel and their families. This free airline ticket program is for special circumstances only, such as "Emergency Leave" for the military member or their family member's transportation to visit military personnel in the hospital.

WHEN DOES IT PAY TO DO YOUR DUTY?

I recently received several calls regarding a multitude of pay issues relating to military duty. I believe a brief explanation, in a question and answer (Q & A) format to some of these issues may help others better understand this sometimes-complicated situation. **Q. What equipment am I required to turn-in prior to departing for extended active duty?** Currently, the primary Department property that MUST be turned-in at the time of activation is your Department duty weapon and Police badge. They should be given to your commanding officer for safekeeping. At which time you should discuss any other special equipment that may need to be turned in. **YOU KEEP YOUR DEPARTMENT ID CARD!** **Q. When does Differential Pay start?** Differential Pay starts at the end of the Paid Military Leave period (first 174 hours of active duty per fiscal year). However, it should be noted that the 174-hour of Paid Military Leave is ONLY paid once per continuous activation, regardless of the duration. **Q. How long does the City/Department pay Differential Pay?** Currently, Differential Pay for "Presidential Recall" is paid indefinitely. **Q. Who qualifies for Differential Pay and how is it calculated?** All Department employees serving on Active Military Duty under Presidential Recall are eligible for Differential Pay, based on their gross military and Department salaries. The concept of Differential Pay is to ensure that no City employee loses his or her current standard of living due to military

activation in defense of our Nation. Differential Pay is based on gross pay (both Department and military). To determine if an individual employee will receive Differential Pay, the employee MUST submit a military Leave and Earnings (LES) Statement to Fiscal and Operations Division (FOD). Tracie Mathis at FOD reviews the gross pay on the LES and subtracts that amount from the gross City pay the employee would receive if they were still here at the Department (it is actually more complicated than that). If the military gross is less than the City gross, the employee paid the City difference. It should be noted that each and every LES should be sent to FOD. It is understood that there will be times when LESs may be delayed due to military operations at remote locations, however, once the employee has an opportunity to access the system necessary, they should forward the missing/late LESs to FOD. Doing so in a timely manner is to the employee and his/her family's benefit. **Q. Can I continue my Deferred Compensation contributions and other City deductions that are on my current City paycheck?** By Federal taxation laws, Deferred Compensation contributions MUST come straight from the source of income (City paycheck). In most cases there are not sufficient funds to cover the Deferred Compensation contributions after all the other deductions have been made. However, the military now offers their version of Deferred Compensation called "Thrift Savings" and you can arrange via the military to start contributions out of your military paycheck. In reference to the other deductions on your current City paycheck, it is HIGHLY recommended that you contact each City, Department, association and charity listed under "Deductions" and advise them of your military status. They will be more than willing to work with you and in some cases "cover" your cost or dues. They will request a copy of your current military orders and any extensions that follow. If you do your part, the various entities will do their part and your military activation should go relatively uneventful as far as the City/Department are concerned. **Q. Who needs copies of my military orders?** At a minimum, you need to submit copies of your military orders and any extensions to your division of assignment timekeeper, as well as Personnel Division (Vickie Wong) and FOD (Tracie Mathis). Courtesy copies should be given to any other pertinent entities, as necessary (see question above). **Q. Who should I or my family call if problems or issues occur before, during, or after any military service or activation.** If you have a system in place that works for you, continue to use it. However, you and your family can contact the Military Liaison Officer at any time you have a question, problem or situation directly

continued on page 45

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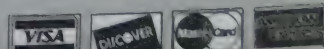
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by Eugene "The Taxman" Bedolla
Pacific Division

Greetings, amigos! Pacific Area is alive and well. Due to technical difficulties, there was no divisional reporter article for the last few months. But, as you can now read, we're back.

Let's get busy and jump right into a "commendable coppers' caper. Some of the best and brightest police officers work right here in Pacific Area. More specifically, some of these outstanding coppers are assigned to the Gang Enforcement Detail. Well, on January 15 of this year, a homicide occurred in the Oakwood section of the division. The victim was a gang member killed by a member of a rival gang. The weapon used was a handgun. Pacific Area officers were right on top of this incident. Responding officers, after a vehicle and foot pursuit, were able to nab the bad guys in this shooting and get them a free pass to the gray bar hotel. However, the handgun used to commit the homicide

was not recovered. An extensive search was conducted, but the weapon was still not found.

The next day, Officer **David Bambrick** took it upon himself to meet with area detectives to learn more about the facts of the shooting. He learned that the suspect admitted to discarding the weapon. Officer Bambrick understood the evidentiary value the handgun would present at the impending murder trial. But more importantly, a handgun loose on the streets has many potential tragic outcomes. First it could end up in the hands of another criminal to be used in future crimes. Or how about if a young child were to happen upon it. Well, these were some of the thoughts that plagued Officer Bambrick. He approached his supervisor with these concerns and requested that he lead a team of officers on another search for the weapon. He received the green light and together with Officer **Michael Johnson** and Officer **Gerald Gibson** conducted a second search. They left no stone unturned as they retraced the suspects futile getaway route. In an alley behind Centinela Avenue was six foot high fence. On the other side was the rear yard of a private residence with thick brush. They were able to observe the handgun in the thick brush in the rear yard. The handgun was recovered and the residence owner, the father of two young daughters, was shocked to learn of the discovery and the potential disaster that could have befallen his family.

We can all agree that the tenacity, perseverance and commitment to the citizens of Los Angeles by these officers is commendable. Great job!

We all know that Pacific Station is located on Culver Blvd. Well, maybe it should be located on Sesame Street. Why, you ask? A number of Pacific Area officers have and/or will soon be entering that brave new, exciting, unpredictable world known as parenthood. Take it from someone who knows. In my humble opinion, there is no more exciting event than to bring forth a life into this world. As I once read, the role of a parent is "the hardest job you will ever love."

First, Officer **Alan Aldegarie** and his wife **Eleanor** gave birth to **Marisa Leilani Aldegarie** on February 4, 2004. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 4 oz. and was 20 inches in length. Second, Sgt. **Mark Stainbrook** and his wife received their bundle of joy from the stork five months ago. Her name is **Cali Stainbrook**. You can see from her photo that she is ready to rumble and get out there and serve her country just like her father did in Iraq. Lastly, this proud author would like everyone to see his latest precious gift from above. As I said, more bouncing babies are enroute to be highlighted in future articles.

Lastly, Pacific Area has lost some personnel due to transfer. Sgt. **Evan Martin** will be demonstrating his superior



Cali Stainbrook.



Raymond Marco Bedolla.

skills as a supervisor at Southwest Area. Sgt. **Mark "Should We Eat at Nichols or Pacos" Durrell** will also be supervising at Southwest Area. Finally, Sgt. **Gary "You're Not Taking My Watch" McQueen** will be learning all about AOIs, CPIs, and all else traffic related at West Traffic Division. Pacific Area will miss you all.

Make each and every day count. Take care of your co-workers and please never neglect your family. ❖

Military Liason Program

continued from page 44

or indirectly related to military service (see contact information at the top of this article). **Q. If I am on "probation" (any Department probation) at the time of military activation, what will my status be when I return to the Department?** All probationary periods are "Frozen" at the time of military activation. Your division of assignment will submit a letter to Personnel Division notifying them of your change in duty status. Upon return to the Department for duty, your division of assignment will submit a request to Personnel Division requesting a new end of probation date. The new end of probation date will be "day for day" of the original time remaining on probation at the time of activation. (For example, if at the time of activation you had 14 days remaining

to completion of probation, upon your return two years later, you will still have 14 days remaining.) Note: By Federal Law there is NOT any type of penalty or additional time tacked on to probation for military service. **Q. What type of training am I required to do upon my return to the Department after extended military leave?** When ANY employee returns to the Department for duty after an extended period of absence, they must follow the guidelines of the Office of the Chief of Police, Special Order No. 11, dated May 21, 2001. The Subject is "Reintegrating Department Employees Into The Workplace After An Extended Absence." Basically, there is no specific training required for employees returning from active military duty. The above Special Order simply states that the returning employee MUST meet with their commanding officer and divisional training coordinator to review the

individual employee's training needs. The review will include all training missed during the period of activation as well as "sign for" and review all Department publications issued during the period of your absence. Special note should be taken in regards to weapons qualification. **Priority must be given to Department firearm re-qualification**, which should be accomplished as soon as possible upon reporting back to duty. Firearms Reintegration training is conducted through **Officer Kemp Fairbanks** at the Ed Davis Training Center (818) 832-3746. The above questions and answers is not intended to be a complete list, but rather an aid to assist you during your overlapping careers with the Department and the United States Armed Forces. Please watch for "questions & answers" in future articles. Remember I am here for you and your family's benefit; please let me know if I can be of service to you. It

is a privilege and an honor to provide assistance to those who are proudly serving our county in the Guard and Reserve. Semper Fi, DJD

Attention to Orders: It is requested that each employee currently on active military duty or those anticipating activation, provide the Military Liaison Officer with your correct **Home of Record address and current military (FPO) mailing address and military e-mail accounts. It is further requested that you keep these addresses updated as necessary. The Military Liaison Officer needs this information to better serve you, as the Department increasingly turns to the Military Liaison Program to communicate with our employees serving on active duty. You or your family member can provide this information to me via phone, fax, mail, or e-mail.** ❖

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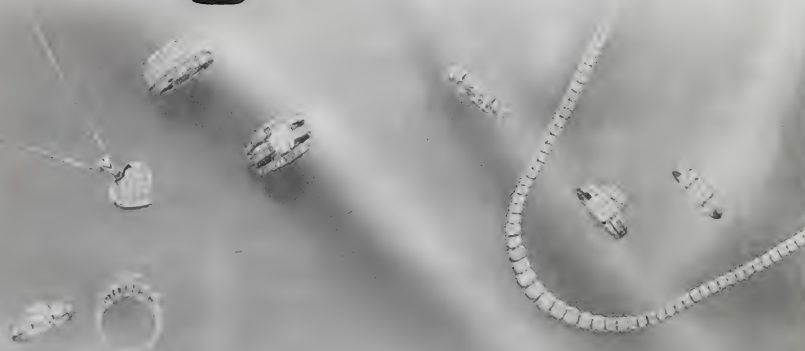
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SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow, Sports Beat Editor

This year's 26th Annual LAPD Memorial Run and Relay (set Saturday, June 26) will be especially poignant and heartbreaking. Although violence against officers has risen over the past two years, the 2002 and 2003 runs had been devoid of new on-duty fatalities. Since last year's race, unfortunately, two of the Department's finest have fallen while serving to protect the citizens of Los Angeles.

Almost four weeks after the race, Northeast Det. **Abiel Barron** died in an on-duty traffic accident returning home from an investigation in Las Vegas—and more recently, Officer **Ricardo Lizarraga** was brutally gunned down five weeks ago answering a domestic violence call. The Newton officer was the 195th LAPD member killed in the line of duty and first to be fatally shot since 1998 when **Brian Brown** (Pacific), **Filbert Cuesta** (Southwest), and **Steven Gajda** (Hollenbeck) met similar fates.

Honoring the memory of these two fallen officers makes it that much more important for all officers and their families—not just the “runners”—to mark their calendars and make plans to spend the morning of June 26 at Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey. One of the best ways to show our appreciation to their families for the sacrifice they made is for that beach to be swarming with Department personnel in a show of solidarity in their memory.

There will be more information on the upcoming Memorial Run in the next issue. Volunteers interested in helping at the race are encouraged to contact LAPRAAC Athletic Coordinator Ruben Espalin at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219/221

or via e-mail at rdespalin@lapraac.com.

LAPRAAC Says “Just Do It”

The Revolver Club has struck a deal with Nike to feature its products at the Academy gift shop and at the Baker to Vegas race. A limited line of Nike basketball, running and cross training attire and shoes—including dry fit shirts, hats, etc.—can be purchased exclusively at the gift shop. Order forms for Nike running attire specifically geared for the April 24-25 Challenge Cup Relay are available in the athletic office (basement of the Elysian Park Academy next to the credit union) or by contacting Athletic Coordinator Ruben Espalin at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219/221.

Police/Fire Games Booklets Available

A supply of registration booklets for the upcoming California Police and Fire Games is now available for department athletes looking to make the trip up Highway 99 to Stockton, June 6-12. Here's a great chance to become a part of history—participate *this* year at the California Police and Fire Games, *next* year at the re-named *Western States* Police and Fire Games.

To obtain a booklet, visit the LAPRAAC athletic office (basement of the Elysian Park Academy next to the credit union) or call Athletic Coordinator Ruben Espalin at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219/221.

Additional information on the Stockton games is also available by calling (209) 937-5030 or visiting www.cpfgames2004.org (there's also a link to online registration forms).

The 2004 Softball Season to Get Underway

The battle to see who wins this year's

Red Davis Tournament gets underway later this month as the first pitch is thrown for the 2004 intra-departmental softball season. A pre-season coaches meeting to organize leagues was held by coordinator **Joe Oliveri** just after our press deadline, but up to 20 teams were expected to enter the fray in hopes of wrestling the trophy away from Rampart Division.

For up-to-the-minute information on game schedules, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800, or the Revolver Club athletic office at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219/221.

Tickets? Boy, Do We Have Tickets!

Looking for discount ducats to local amusement parks, cheap seats at the movies, or some primo tickets for Dodgers and Angels action? The LAPRAAC administrative office at the Elysian Park Academy is your one stop for big savings.

With the kids and grandkids preparing for Spring Break, Revolver Club members can save \$5, \$10, \$15 or more on tickets to places like Sea World, Magic Mountain, Knott's Berry Farm, and many other local attractions. Why pay full fare? Keep your money in your pocket, or spend it on the kids and grandkids!

For a list of available attractions, the *Dodger and Angel* game dates, visit the LAPRAAC office or call (323) 221-5222, ext. 201.

We Welcome Your Articles

Submitting an article for Sports Beat is the best way to get sports-related information out to a wide range of active and retired LAPD personnel. (To be included, we must receive articles—via fax or e-mail—no less than three days before the end of current month: April 27 for June, May 28 for July, etc. E-mail

articles to rdespalin@lapraac.com or fax to (323) 222-0629. Photos are welcome—low-res jpegs are preferred via e-mail (or indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos available).

On a Closing Note

All good things must come to an end. Twenty years ago, **Chuck Foote** had the idea of LAPRAAC putting sports coverage in the Protective League's *The Thin Blue Line*. After five years of lobbying, his effort bore fruit and your humble scribe began composing pearls of wisdom for these pages in 1989.

The Revolver Club Board of Directors, in an effort to conserve funds for other projects, has opted to place yours truly on revocable waivers and will produce Sports Beat internally starting with the next issue.

I'd like to thank all our contributors over the years for helping to keep our readers informed. Thanks also go to Helen McVay and the Protective League Board of Directors who have graciously donated space in the last 183 issues to keep you up-to-date on the Department's sports program.

Special thanks go to people like **Chuck Foote**, the late **Larry Moore**, **Bob Burke**, **Tony Adler**, **Jimmy Trahin**, **Paul von Lutzow**, and the late **Bill Stein** for their encouragement over these many years. And, of course, a very special thanks to you, our readers, for your loyalty and support.

May your respective deity keep a watchful eye out for you on the streets and alleyways of Los Angeles and protect you from harm. Wear your badge with pride—you are the thin blue line that protects our families from anarchy. It has been a pleasure to work alongside you and be a part of your lives for the last 15 years. ♦

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LAPD Women Seek 7th Straight Win



Challenge Cup Relay

By Lew Snow, Sports Beat Editor

All Systems "Go" for 20th Annual Baker to Vegas Relay, April 24-25

The "T's" are crossed, the "I's" are dotted and all systems are "go" for the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, April 24-25. A record 225 teams are making final preparations for a weekend-long competition that pits runners against the elements along a grueling 120-mile course. This year's race will have an international flair with five teams from four different countries: Berlin, Germany; Queensland, Australia; South Wales, England; and two squads from Calgary, Canada.

The seemingly invincible LAPD Women's Running Team is looking to extend its Baker to Vegas Relay unbeaten streak to seven. They finished the 2003 race in 15:48:20, nearly 81 minutes ahead of second place L.A. County Sheriffs. Coach Sherri Egan's runners

are undefeated in every race they've entered since 1995!

Also looking to repeat is the San Diego Police Dept., which finally made it to the top of the heap in 2003 after a long string of second, third and fourth place finishes. Last year's race was a neck and neck battle to the bitter end with LASD's Special Enforcement Bureau (a team of older runners that has dominated the "800" division for the last 11 years). SEB actually crossed the finish first, but when an airlift delay was factored out of SDPD's time, ended up more than four minutes behind SDPD's adjusted time of 13:24:06. Metro Division's Red Team, winner of the 1998, 1999, 2001 and 2002 races, was decimated by the loss of top runners to other assignments and military call-ups. It came in third in the Open Division (fifth overall) at 13:49:40.

What would normally be a stellar celebration of the 20th annual race has also become a loving tribute to the memory of one of its founders, former LAPD Athletic Director **Larry Moore**. It was 1985 when Moore, along with co-founder **Chuck Foote** (former LAPRAAC operations officer), charted a course for 17 teams to brave the desert heat and mountain cold to determine who had the toughest runners. Over the years the dynamic duo nurtured and grew the race until it became the nation's largest law enforcement athletic event. Moore died tragically in late December from injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident in Nevada.

"This has been the biggest year for individual teams wanting to honor the unfortunate demise or tragic injury to someone in their department," said

Foote. "There are at least eight teams, including Newton, who requested special team numbers that include all or part of a fallen officer's serial or badge number—teams like Fresno Sheriffs, CHP Bishop, Boise P.D., and California Fish and Game. In addition to competing to win, we have teams running to raise money for a cause or pay tribute to their local heroes in uniform."

Close to 10,000 runners, support personnel and spectators will swarm the Mojave Desert, Western Nevada and Las Vegas over the weekend. For tiny towns like Baker, Shoshone and Pahrump, it is the single-most important event to their local economics—surpassing the Christmas shopping season. By end of the weekend, most stores and restaurants in Baker are decimated by the ravenous hordes of runners and volunteers. In Shoshone, home of the only restroom and pay phone in a 50-mile radius, activity at the lone combo store/gas station resembles hungry locusts on a wheat field. Even in Las Vegas the race's impact adds millions of dollars to the local coffers (plus what is left on the gambling tables!).

What drives these teams of 20 runners to tackle a grueling 120-mile effort through desert sands and mountain snows, a good portion during the dead of night? What motivates a runner who, until race day, doesn't know whether to run in sunglasses or a parka, to run sections with elevation increases of 2,000 or 3,000 feet in a short four or five miles? Or to tackle "Billy Goat Hill," reaching the top of Mountain Springs Pass after a climb second only to tackling the stairs of the Empire State Building?

It's the challenge, of course! The pure test of an athlete's mettle, the search for

the Holy Grail, the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. The ability to beat searing 120-degree heat, howling desert winds, freezing rain or snow whipping at one's face. While the ultimate goal is for the "team" to win, for most runners it's just to finish...to make it to the next leg...wrestle and beat those personal demons...and win hands down.

Like waves of invading hordes, five flights of runners take off down Highway 127 (from a point 19-1/2 miles north of Baker High School) starting at 12:30 p.m. The course is unforgiving—120 miles of road shoulder and/or asphalt. Cacti and desert sands all the way to Shoshone, then a sharp right straight up the mountains to Pahrump, Nevada (home of city lights and the ladies who stand underneath them). Following a brief suburban respite, it's time for the true "professionals"—Highway 160 through Mountain Springs Pass, climbing to an elevation well over 7,000 feet. Those who survive then descend almost 3,500 feet to the parking lot of the Silverton Hotel (at I-15 and Blue Diamond, just south of the famous Strip) with the winner crossing the finish line just after 7:00 a.m. Sunday.

After the last stragglers cross at 1:00 p.m., the results are tabulated, penalties are assessed and challenged, with final results posted around 6:00 p.m. The weekend culminates in a standing-room-only awards ceremony at the Las Vegas Hilton's Convention Center on Sunday evening.

Look for race results and photos in the June issue of *The Thin Blue Line*. Results will also be available on the Baker to Vegas Web site after the race. For more information, contact Foote at (323) 221-5222, ext. 211 or visit www.bakerveregas.com.

Southeast, Foothill Dets Win Year's First LAPD Golf Club Tourney

by Fred Cueto

Duffers from opposite ends of the city captured the first LAPD Golf Club tournament of the new year, held February 6 at Lakewood Country Club. Southeast carded a net 308 to capture the "A" flight and Foothill Detectives carded a 312 to take the "B" flight. The win gives both teams a foot up on wrestling the Department title from Devonshire (with the Rock seeking to recapture what was lost to its rivals down the 118).

Next tournament is Friday, April 2, 10:00 a.m. at Knollwood Country Club in Granada Hills. Additional events are scheduled (all Fridays) May 28, 11:00 a.m. at La Mirada Golf Course; July 23, 11:45 a.m. at Los Verdes Golf Course; and Sept. 17, 10:00 a.m. at Brookside in Pasadena. The traditional year-end club

tournament will be held in either November or December at a course still to be determined. Greens fees (including cart) are \$50 and should be mailed to **Doris Jaramillo**, 800 S. Pacific Coast Highway, #8322, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

Also upcoming is the first Stars and Shield Golf Classic, pitting LAPD versus LASD on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at Robinson Ranch. For more details, contact **Damian Gutierrez** at (661) 373-7476.

In other news, the Golf Club is tossing around the idea of going to a two-person team format instead of the current foursome. This would allow more players to compete for the year-end team trophy and allow setting up a few more competitive events like two-person best ball and two-person scrambles. Duffers

are encouraged to contact club directors or e-mail to LAPDGolfClub@aol.com with their opinions.

Thanks to the hard work of **Sal Jaramillo**, the Golf Club is now recognized by the SCGA for posting online. Members now have the perk of logging onto the SCGA Web site and posting their scores. Speaking of Sal, the club is looking for someone to take over the duties of tournament director. If interested, contact him at (310) 951-0731.

Results of February 6 Tournament

A-Flight Team: Southeast 308 (Potter, Zambos, Thompson, Estrada)

B-Flight Team: Foothill Detectives 312 (Escoto, Bishop, Stocks, Lenane)

A-Flight Individual: Pat Russell (Wil), Low Gross 76

B-Flight Individual: Jerry Camporredondo (ASD), Low Net 70



Jim Antenucci and Tournament Director Sal Jaramillo sport four hands full of trophies at a recent club event.

Closest to Pin: #3 – Oatis (ASD), #5 – Stocks (Fthl Dets), #12 – Casey (77th) and #17 – Oatis

Long Drive: Blue Tees: Oatis, White Tees: J. Sanchez (77th)

Skins Game (Estrada): McClure (1), Peake (1), Russell (2), Springer (1) and Potter (1)

More Sports Beat on next page

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SPORTS BEAT

Will Friday the 13th Help Southeast, Rampart Spoil 77th's Odds for 17 Straight Bench Wins?

Having given powerhouse 77th Street a big scare in October, Southeast and Rampart are pulling out all the stops to try and end the Power Pigs' domination of LAPD bench press competition. In addition to training day and night, they're hoping superstition puts some oomph in their lifts—this year's spring contest will be held on Friday the 13th! (May 13 to be exact.)

At the fall contest in October, nearly half the participants hailed from West 108th and Fort Apache. They accumulated 447 points, marking the first time in many years 77th did not output the combined total of *all* other teams in the event.

Paul von Lutzow has coached the hogs and sows of South Broadway to 16 straight contests, starting way back in May, 1996. Squads led by the "Sultan of Swine" have

won 21 of the last 22 contests.

Bench press enthusiasts will also be watching the performance of 77th **Alberto Franco**. In October the penultimate Power Pig set an LAPD record by lifting 550 lbs.—topping the old mark (also his) by 25 lbs. Can 600 lbs be that far behind?

Rumor on the street has it both Southeast and Rampart are searching for local voodoo doctors and witches/warlocks in an effort to build on the day's superstition coefficient. The question is...just how superstitious is von Lutzow?

Entry forms for the May 13 sweat-fest are now available in department weight rooms and at the LAPRAAC athletic



Look for plenty of action at the spring Bench Press Contest on Friday, May 13

office at the Elysian Park Academy. Weigh-ins will be held on Thursday, May 12, at the Academy gym (additional locations to be announced). For more information, call (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219.

Parker Center Undefeated in League Play, Seeks to Repeat as LAPD Hoop Champs

After all the dust settled over the 2003-'04 intradepartmental basketball season, Parker Center, last year's champion, emerged as the only team to sail through league play undefeated. The Admins won all 11 games and were odds-on favorites to repeat as Captain Al Nelson Tournament champions. Parker Center should face a strong challenge from "A" League

bridesmaids Internal Affairs and Van Nuys.

In "B" League action, perennial powerhouse Metro finished on top with a 7-2 record, one game ahead of Hollenbeck (whom it defeated in last year's "B" League tournament). Hollywood ended up a nose ahead of namesake North Hollywood for the "C" League East title. While both

teams sported dual losses, the NoHos played in one less game.

Pacific sported the year's second best record, finishing 9-1 in "C" League West action. Southeast #1 and Wilshire, both 8-2 in league action, should give them a run for the money in the post-season tournament. Over in the "D" League, Juvenile Division ended up on top at 7-2, one win ahead

of both Organized Crime Vice and Central Traffic.

Final games in the post-season tournaments were played after our press deadline. For results, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800 or call the LAPRAAC Athletic Coordinator's office at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219/221.

"A" LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Parker Center	11	0	1.000	
Internal Affairs #1	8	3	.727	3
Van Nuys	7	4	.636	4
Central #1	6	5	.545	5
Rampart #1	6	5	.545	5
77th Street	5	6	.455	6
Northeast #1	1	10	.111	10

"B" LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Metro #1	7	2	.777	
Hollenbeck	6	3	.667	1
Newton #1	5	4	.556	2
Southwest #1	5	4	.556	2
Southeast Red Harbor	3	6	.333	4
	2	7	.222	5

"C" EAST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Hollywood	9	2	.818	
N. Hollywood	8	2	.800	1/2
Wilshire Dets.	6	3	.667	2
Captains	5	4	.556	3
West Traffic	4	5	.444	4
Northeast #2	3	7	.300	5-1/2
Southwest #2	2	8	.200	6-1/2
Training	2	8	.200	6-1/2

"C" WEST	W	L	Pct.	GB
Pacific	9	1	.900	
Southeast #2	8	2	.800	1
Wilshire	8	2	.800	1
Internal Affairs #2	6	3	.667	2-1/2
Central #2	6	4	.600	3
Metro #2	3	5	.375	5
Newton Vice	3	6	.333	5-1/2
Foothill	3	7	.300	6
Devonshire	1	9	.100	8
Rampart #2	1	9	.100	8

"D" LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Juvenile	7	2	.778	
Central Traffic	6	3	.667	1
Org. Crime Vice	6	3	.667	1
South Traffic	5	4	.556	2
Critical Incident Inv.	4	5	.444	3
South Bureau SCU	0	7	.000	6



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Centurion Paintball Teams Take Silver Medals at Winter Classic

by Travis Jones

The Department's Centurion Paintball Team hosted the California Police and Fire Paintball Association Winter Classic Tournament in January. The event was a smashing success with the Centurions fielding two teams due to an increase in participation. Both teams came home with silver medals.

The "Blue" squad was comprised of Travis Jones (team captain), Miguel Lopez, Mike Ling, Sam Gong and David Martin. The "Red" squad consisted of Manny Hernandez and Chris Borunda (team captains) and new players Brandon Valdez, Bill Bailey and Genaro Arredondo.

Both teams won all their games and advanced into the gold medal round in their respective divisions. This was the first tournament for the Red team and

they did particularly well by advancing into the championship round in their initial outing. In the final game the Reds formed in the starting box, and as soon as the head referee whistled, Front Player Valdez ran like lightning to mid-field and captured the flag.

Valdez dodged hundreds of paintballs to strike first blood in the points standing. Not to be outdone, Mid Player Borunda, Right Back Bailey and Left Back Arredondo exited the box firing a barrage of paintballs to stop the opposition from advancing. They turned the opposing field orange from the color of their paintballs. Left Front Player Hernandez ran up the left tapeline and assisted Valdez in his efforts.

The new players were outstanding in their first tournament. Only Hernandez and Borunda had tournament experience, but the team operated as a well

oiled machine to win the Silver in Division 3. The Blue team did extremely well and took Silver in Division 2. LAPD teams have been successful in taking medals in the last three tournaments.

The Centurions Paintball Team is always looking to expand its membership. We hope to expand into a third team for the upcoming Police/Fire Games and are looking to form the first female law enforcement officer team in the nation. (Attention, ladies: We need your participation and contribution in making history.) If you'd like to share a few laughs and have some great fun, then join us. This is the only sport where your opponent fires back at



Centurion Paintball players pose for team picture prior to Winter Classic.

you so, get off that couch and play some paintball.

For additional information, contact Travis Jones (SE) at (213) 485-6914, Sam Gong (Central) at (213) 485-6590, or visit the team Web site at www.lapdpaintball.com.

Centurions Open Their 2004 Campaign

The Los Angeles Police Department Football Team opened their 2004 season with training camp which was held at West Los Angeles College on February 28th and 29th. The team welcomed in 20 rookie players from all positions. This is the largest group of rookie players on the football team since 1997. The Centurions are proud to announce that several of these 1st year players will be starting and in the two-deep line-ups when the team opens its season against the Phoenix Thunder on March 20, 2004 in Phoenix, Arizona. Training Camp was a very big success with several key additions at defensive line, linebacker, and offensive line.

Head Coach Darryl Holmes, Defensive Coordinator Marcus Porter, Offensive Coordinator Harry Causey, Offensive Line Coach Memo Reyes, and the remainder of the coaching staff returns from a National Public Safety Football League (NPSFL) Championship Game in 2003. The Centurions will also add former player Don Payne to the coaching ranks. He will be the Defensive Back's Coach.

The Centurions are encouraging all department personnel and their families that are attending the LAPRAAC Baker to Vegas Relay to attend the Centurion football game on Saturday afternoon. The time and location of the game will be announced on the department LAN's System. The Centurions will face off against the South Bay Blue Knights on April 24th prior to the start of the Baker to Vegas Relay.

The Centurions will honor their former teammate, Ricardo Lizzaraga, who was killed in the line of duty, with a tribute to the fallen player and his family during one of the upcoming games. His family will be presented Liz's game jersey and helmet, and the family will be a part of the coin toss prior to the game. Check the department's LAN's system for further information on the time and location of the ceremony and game.

All department personnel, their families, former alumni and fans are encouraged to attend this year's games. Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks will be the home field for the Centurions. The LAPD Football team faces a tough schedule, but are looking to make their way back to the Championship game for a 5th consecutive year. This has never been accomplished by any other team in the NPSFL. Come out

and show your support for the Centurions, as they pursue their first National Championship since 2001.

CENTURION GAME SCHEDULE:

LAPD Centurions vs

New York Fire Department Bravest Saturday, April 3, 2004
Time TBA at Notre Dame H.S. in Sherman Oaks

LAPD Centurions vs South Bay Blue Knights Saturday, April 24, 2004
Time TBA Location TBA in Las Vegas

LAPD Centurions vs Los Angeles Fire Department Heat Saturday, May 8, 2004
Time TBA at Notre Dame H.S. in Sherman Oaks

LAPD Centurions vs Orange County Lawmen Saturday May 22, 2004
Time TBA Location TBA in Orange County

NPSFL Championship Game Teams TBA June 5, 2004
Time TBA Location TBA

Centurion Hardballers Prepare for '04 Season

by Mike Scott

The season for America's favorite pastime is here and the Centurions baseball team is ready to go! Finishing last year on a high note, going undefeated in their last two tournaments with two championships, the Centurions kick off the 2004 season with a trip to Tucson, Arizona, April 7-11. This year will bring many exciting challenges with the Centurions meeting "New York's finest" (the NYPD baseball team) three times.

In June the Centurions travel to the Big Apple to play in a memorial tournament for a NYPD officer's son tragically killed last year. The following month the Centurions play host as NYPD visits L.A. for a showdown at the Fourth Annual LAPD Celebrity Swing-A-Thon. Then in September the teams meet once again in San Diego (where the Centurions defeated NYPD 9-2 in the

championship game).

For more information about the LAPD Centurions Baseball Team, contact Tim Moss at (818) 756-9281 or Mike Scott for events (818) 268-2488.

Centurions Baseball Schedule

April 7-11: Tucson Police and Fire Games (Arizona).

June 6-12: California Police and Fire Games in Stockton.

June 24-26: NYPD Memorial Tournament (New York).

July 24: Fourth Annual Celebrity Swing-A-Thon, LAPD vs. NYPD (Los Angeles).

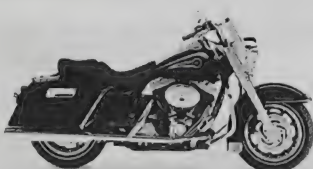
August 11-13: International Las Vegas Police and Fire Games (Nevada).

September 12-15: Mike Anaya Tournament (San Diego).

October 17-19: Mesa Police Games (Arizona).

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RETIREMENT NEWS

The Retirement News is a regular feature of The Thin Blue Line. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Valley Retired Blues

By Clinton O. Erickson

Our next meeting will be on April 21, 2004, at "The LAMPLIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave and Nordhoff St. We meet every month on the 3rd Wednesday in the Bar/Lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 A.M. Coffee is available until orders are taken. All LAPD officers, wives/friends (active or retired) are welcome to attend. We have no membership dues and time is spent renewing friendships and reminiscing.

We had 23 attending February 18th luncheon. The attendance for this meeting was recorded by Emmett Drennen for me. The following attended: **Bob BAKER** (7839), **Jim DAVIS** (14365), **Ted DEBS** (6808), **Emmett DREN-**

NEN (3279), **Ed ELLIOTT** (4703), **Ed ELLIOTT JR.** (14202), **Hilliard (Curly) ELLIOTT** (4534), **John W. GROGAN** (11852), **Dean KNOUSE** (6057), **Boris MENEGHELLI** (3522), **Lou NETZA** (7655), **Ernie** (5268) and **Mary NEWMAN**, **Joe REINER** (12792), **Dale RICKARDS** (3593), **Duane (Whitey) RYBURN** (3981), **Arnie SAURO** (6104), **Forest SLOAN** (6713), **Ted SPROUL** (7737), **Mel TOUSSEAU** (3270), **Dick WEAVER** (11181), **Hal YARNEL** (3662) and **Clem ZUMEL** (4495).

Ed Elliott Jr. and Joe Reiner were first time attendees. There is room for additional 15-20 attendees, so mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you need more information please contact me at the numbers listed below.

I missed my first meeting in several

years this month from having Congestive Heart Failure (CHF). My first episode was around 2 AM on January 8th. I was taken to West Hills Hospital as the Kaiser facility was full. I was stabilized, given several tests and treated. No heart damage or blockage was located and I was transferred to Kaiser Friday afternoon, January 9th. Several more tests were performed with no evidence of heart damage, arterial blockage, or any other problems and I was discharged on Tuesday January 10th. I continued my normal activities and in the early hours of February 13th I had another CHF.

I was taken to Kaiser Hospital Woodland Hills, treated and given evaluation tests, which resulted in my being taken to Kaiser Cardiac facilities on Sunset Blvd in Los Angeles for an angiogram. The test was preformed by my cardiologist and the results showed 3 and possibly a 4th artery being blocked.

Surgery was scheduled and performed February 18th with 4 arteries being bypassed. I continued to have followed up treatment and was discharged Monday February 23rd, into the care of my daughter and son that live in the area. I don't anticipate any additional problems, but will have a chauffeur for next 6-8 weeks.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the Valley and live in this area and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighters.

Our meeting information and attendees are on www.larfpa.com. Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting in March and if you don't remember the date, remember it is always the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Old Blue Running Team

by Mike McKean

This is the last article prior to the Baker to Las Vegas Relay. Our final run

is scheduled for April 4, 2004, at 0800 (8:00 a.m.) at Griffith Park. We are still meeting behind the Park Ranger Station and Headquarters and down the left

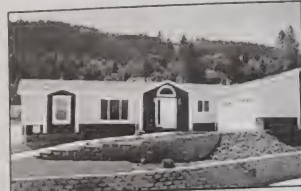
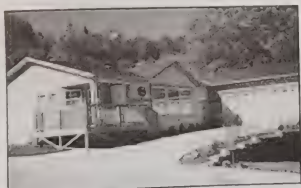
field line of the baseball playing field. Coaches **Chuck McTaggart** and **Mel Sandvig** are in the process of finalizing the team and assignments.

We could always find a place for someone to be on the support team. There are lots of available positions with no experience necessary. The training is easy and best of all no reports to write, no ratings to exaggerate on, all requests will be listened to and discussed, and suggestions are encouraged.

Our run for March coincided with the L.A. Marathon. However, we are not going to be crossing paths as we have in the past with other runs. One year our runner ran upstream against the L.A. Firecracker 10 runners on Griffith Park Drive. We all learned how the salmon felt swimming upstream.

Anyone interested in participating give Coach Chuck a call, or you can call me at (805) 498-6147 for directions. See you next time.

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SHOOTIN' NEWTON REUNION Newton Police Station 1925 - 2004

Saturday, July 31, 2004
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Police Academy - Elysian Park
"Picnic Area"

Social Hour 2:00 p.m.
Dinner 5:00 p.m.

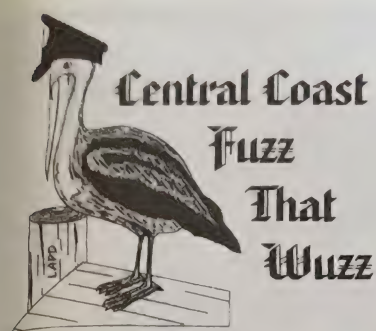
\$30.00 per person
(Includes dinner, beverage & souvenir)



For more information please contact:
Detective Kelle Baitx, Newton Homicide, at (323) 846-6556, or
Sergeant Cheri Doolittle, Newton Patrol, or Watch Commander at (323) 846-6547

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Newton Reunion, c/o Detective Kelle Baitx
3400 S. Central Avenue (STOP 408)
Los Angeles, CA 90011

\$30.00 (per person) \$ Amount Enclosed
of Tickets _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____



By Dave Aikins

A warm spring greetings to all of you from the Fuzz Gang who love to reside on the central coast. I can say that recently we have had our share of phenomena such as earthquakes, severe storms and riots. Riots, you say? Now what gives in friendly San Luis Obispo (SLO) County? Well, actually it was only one riot and that took place in the city of San Luis Obispo. So rest easy, folks, all is well. It was the lure of the recent Mardi Gras celebration that seemed to bring young folks from about anywhere in the good ol' USA. So, many of the 5,000 spoiled, drunken, obnoxious, law-breaking local college students and undoubtedly many out-of-town non-students decided to confront the law enforcement personnel who were charged with policing the city. I

would imagine that the abundance of alcohol consumption might have had a little bit of influence during the evening, as nearly two-thirds of the 187 arrests were for drunkenness or under age drinking. No problem, just kids out having a good time throwing rocks, bricks and bottles at the riot-ready police. The contingent of law enforcement officers included members from Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties as well as representatives from agencies within SLO County. The good guys did a real professional job in protecting lives and property without sustaining any major injuries. Now, we never had this kind of stuff in L.A., right? Naw.

Another interesting item was the arrest of a woman in SLO for allegedly shooting her husband in their multi-million dollar residence. The details are sketchy, but it shows that even the wealthy have problems. The interesting thing to note was that the last murder in this city was nearly a year ago to the day, when a 73-year-old man was stabbed on a downtown sidewalk. The previous homicide before that occurred in 1998. I always cite these vague little statistics when people ask why I want to hang around up here.

Enough talk of violence. It's time to mention the gentle folks that make up the Fuzz That Wuzz Gang. Each year we

list those who have been with us and enjoyed our LAPD camaraderie. Here goes: **Jerry Abbott, Bill & Linda Achen, Geraldine Auth, Dave & Claudia Bannister, Frank & Flo Beeson, Walter Boronich, John & Josanna Bradbury, Freeman & Nellie Calvert, Brad & Linda Cochran, Myrl Cornwell, Bob & Marilyn Darnell, Ed & Bobbie Davis, Cliff & Lorraine DeBernardi, Tom & Ruth Donnelly, Roy Eker, Harold Epling, Clinton Erickson, Ken Francik, Dave Franzier, Brian & Cathy Galbraith, Richard Gingras, Paul & Barbara Hardy, Steve & Carolyn Henderson, Joe & Taylor Hilden, Art & Cathy Hotchkiss, Sheri & Ray Hovas, Carl & Maxine Ingels, Connie Jefferson, Ralph Kempner.**

Also included are: **Gerd & Nancy Konieczny, John Krasts, Charles & Priscilla LaFitte, Dorthy Landgraf, Runo & Roberta Lemming, Sam & Paulette Lopez, Jerry & Paula May, Max & Billie McAlpine, Bob & Joanne McSeveney, John Miscik, Jim & Judy Monaghan, Patty O'Lear, Dennis & Benita Offerman, John Pearson, Chuck & Betty Glen Perriguet, Robert & Aileen Rackerby, Fred & Elle Reichman.**

And last, but not least: **Gil Rivera, Lucy Salls, Allen Schlocker, Marty &**

Rosemary Schlocker, Bill & Susanna Selesky, Warren & Muriel Sizoo, Gary Smith, Tom & Christina Stead, Bob & Robin Stemples, Ken & Wanda Stiffler, Phil & Louann Toledo, Bruno & Ellen Tonin, Fred & Sharline Tuggey, Bob & Carole Velek, Marion Yates, and Tom & Dorie Zwinger.

We are looking forward to seeing **John & Carolyn O'Connell** and **Gene & Nadine Watland** at our Fuzz functions.

Least we not forget our fearless leaders, **Paul & Stella Mattson** and **Jeff & Melissa Watkins**, who give a great deal of their time to make our events truly wonderful occasions.

Unfortunately, as mentioned in previous articles, we recently lost **Joe Cornwell** and **Frances Krasts**. They will be missed by all of us. John Krasts has moved to Cool, Calif., but keeps in touch with the Fuzz folks.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Clinton Erickson who recently underwent heart bypass surgery and his friend **Francis Davidson**, who is also on the mend. Keep **Max McAlpine** in your prayers as he is also dealing with a serious illness.

That's it, folks. Take care and stay healthy.

Catch us at pismoguyngal@charter.net. KMA.

Coachella Valley Blue Line and Golf Club

by Ron and Elayne Gray

A great big thanks to **Larry DeLosh** and **Dave Warren** for hosting the first CVBL Golf Tournament of 2004 at **Cimarron Golf Course** on February 20. **Cimarron** is a very challenging golf course, so we were grateful to relax after the round with a great barbecue dinner with all the trimmings. We haven't met for a while, so it was good to see old friends again. Fifty-three golfers were joined by eleven more who just came to party at the end of the round. A stray rain

cloud drifted by just in time for dinner, but didn't dampen our spirits any. At least it stayed away until we finished golf.

Bill Rodgers, Don Stagnaro, Jim Miller and Lynn Davis took first place money; **Norm Jackson, Mike McGann, Willie Embury and John Giba** won second; and **Pat Anguiano, Bill Moreno, Dale Pierce and Doug Nelson** were third. Sharing DAL honors were two groups consisting of **Jim Swiston, Quint and Yolie Villanueva, Steve Downing, Sandy Palmer and Tim McBride. Cliff Hodge** hit the longest

drive for men 65 and older, while **Bill Rodgers** did the same for the young'uns. **Char Reming** hit the long ball for the ladies. **Lynn Davis** was closest to the pin of the women and **Larry DeLosh** was closest of the men. (He recently had a hole-in-one at that course!)

Other golfers who didn't win any money but had lots of fun were **Dick King, Jack Mahon, Terry Hunter, Bob and Melody Bowers, Russ Hobson, Marv Cooper, Ken Boden, Duane and Pat Lloyd, Jim Hamilton, Walt and Cindy Mitchell, Jim Hardin,**

Carl Olson, Ron and Bonnie Ellena, Jim LaDow, Ron and Elayne Gray, and Doug and Sandy Watson.

Tim Dotson didn't play golf but came for dinner wearing a most uncomfortable-looking neck brace. Hope to see him back on the course soon. The irrepressible **Larry Rhodes** brought **Jeannie** to the mixer, but says there's no way we will get him on the golf course.

It was a great day—even with some raindrops—and we again say "thank you" to **Larry and Dave** for putting it on.

More Retirement News on next page

Dates to Remember

APRIL		Event Time/ Social	Meal
April 8	S.A.B.L.A.	1100	1200
April 14	Inland Blue Line @ Anchor Inn	1030	1200
April 16	Charles Hawley	1600	1800
April 21	Valley Retired Blues	1030	
April 24-25	Baker-to-Vegas Relay		
April 27	Shomrim Society Annual Banquet @ Marina Beach Marriott Hotel	1800	
MAY		Event Time/ Social	Meal
May 1	LAPD Police Celebrity Golf Tournament	1000	
May 1	Legendary Ladies Luncheon	1130	
May 1-31	LAPPL Delta Dental Open Enrollment Period		
May 9-16	National Police Week	(see page 26 for calendar of national, state and local events)	
May 13	S.A.B.L.A.	1100	1200
May 14	Cliff Lloyd	1700	
May 15	National Peace Officers Memorial Day		
May 19	Valley Retired Blues	1030	
May 21	Wally Graves	1700	
May 24-26	50th Reunion- Class of 5-17-54	Laughlin	❖

22nd ANNUAL LAPD LAS VEGAS REUNION

The 77th Street Division Alumni Association will be hosting a reunion of ALL LAPD officers, ACTIVE AND RETIRED, from ANY division, to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on June 7, 8 & 9, 2004.

WHERE: San Remo Hotel, 115 E. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV
PACKAGE: 3 days, 2 nights (incl. tax); hospitality room (bar, snacks and lunch); 5 raffle tickets, and banquet
DRESS: Casual
RESERVATIONS: Contact Al Fried, (702) 269-7627; Bob Carleton, (928) 680-4308; or Rolph Lucke, (909) 597-1653.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Call Al Fried, (702) 269-7627, for information. Cutoff date for both reunion reservations and golf tournament is May 1, 2004.

RETIREMENT NEWS

Inland Blue Line

by Stan Kensis

In the January Inland Blue Line article, **Loyd Yandle**, founder of the Inland Blue Line 21 years ago, announced that he could no longer handle the task of running such a large affair. He was very proud of his LAPD heritage and loved the camaraderie that continued with the Blue Line meetings. It kept him in touch and provided an avenue for all of us to maintain some contact with old friends and comrades. He was distraught that the organization would no longer continue, but to his satisfaction, he found that many others did not want to see the network fade away. I agreed with Loyd that his beloved Inland Blue Line should continue and spoke with **Bill Frommeling**, **Vic Nilsen** and **Bob Risen** who have also stepped forward to con-

tinue the organization. It was only about a week ago that I met with Loyd to gather up the materials and rosters that he compiled. When I learned today of his passing from a massive heart attack, I was dumbfounded. It seems so ironic that just after he passed the baton, he moved on eternal peace. So, it is only fitting that this article be dedicated to the memory of a man who loved the LAPD and did much to found an organization that would bring other retirees together to continue their department connection.

At the last meeting, we had an excellent turnout. I guess the word was out that this might be the end of the Inland Blue Line, but surprise, we're gonna be around. So, let's get the word out and let our friends know that the Inland Blue Line is still kicking.

Dr. **Ted Hunt**, secretary of the Los Angeles Police Protective League, was

the guest speaker and gave us a good overview of how the new Chief of Police is working to improve morale and work in conjunction with the League on areas of common interest. There were some faces that I hadn't seen for many years. Some of the familiar faces that I ran into were **Pierce Weir**, **Ed Oliver**, **John Ensign**, **Jerry Anthony**, **George Bennett**, **Frosty Neimeyer**, **Sam Johnson** and **Keith Bushy**. So many more were in attendance that I apologize for not mentioning all of you. **Larry Walton**, who has a ranch in Utopia, Texas, was our guest who traveled the farthest—now that's dedication.

The next meeting will be on April 14, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. at the Anchor Restaurant, 2524 E. Florida Ave. in Hemet. The restaurant was recently sold and the new owner has raised the tariff. The price is now \$12.50 per person. Reservations can be made by calling (909) 696-1971. I need a head count by April 11. **Keith Bushy**, a retired double dipper from LAPD, will be the guest speaker. He is now a Deputy Chief of Field Operations at the San Bernardino



Loyd Yandle, President of the Inland Blue Line.

County Sheriff's Department.

In closing, I would like to encourage those of you who want the organization to continue, please pay your dues. According to Loyd, believe it or not, it takes a little money to keep the Inland Blue Line going.

Hope to see you all there to make this a fitting luncheon in memory of Loyd Yandle. ♦

Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (SABLA)

by Ed Lewandowski

Greetings from Sacramento! It's springtime. In February, our President, **Carl Kuehn**, arranged to have a special guest speaker for our meeting that was well attended by 27 members and guests at "Friends" restaurant in Rancho Cordova. Aside from our guest speaker, FBI Special Agent Robert Born, there were my son, **Tim Lewandowski** (Placer County Sheriff's Office - North Lake Tahoe Station) and **William "Bill" Maxwell** and his wife **Aggie**. Bill and Aggie came over from Elko, Nevada. It was great to have them visit with us. Bill went on the Department way back in 1947 (similar to several of our SABLA members). Special Agent Robert Born is assigned to the FBI's Sacramento office where he specializes in "weapons of mass destruction" (WMD).

Born's WMD presentation was well received and very interesting as he cov-

ered a wide array of related matter. He addressed nuclear weapons and the differences between chemical and biological weapons along with an impressive "PowerPoint" presentation. Again I urge our members to attend our meetings whenever possible, but particularly when we have such informative speakers involved with current events.

Good news! Our meeting site has been resolved. It will remain at "Friends" restaurant. The owners/management of the restaurant have decided to forgo changing our meeting room into a bar and will continue to host our presence on the second Thursday of each month. A couple of alternative sites were looked at, but those in attendance voted to remain with "Friends." It's close to the freeway (Hwy. 50) and has adequate parking. The management has been very good to our members, allowing us to order anything off the menu with a separate check for each table

(four to a table). The check is broken down to each person's order including tax so it's easy to know "how much do I owe."

While there were quite a few SABLA members present at the February meeting, **Norm Roberge** passed around an "old" pocket "Codes" handbook from 1948 for all to see. Seems he found it in his locker when he worked 77th Street back in 1967. It was interesting to see how one advertiser in the handbook listed their unbeatable special discounts to officers for appliances, jewelry, etc. Ah, the good old days.

Aside from our usual members present, it was good to see **Royal Jensen**, **Art Van Court**, **Joe Sandoval**, **Nate Iannone**, and **Chuck Blogin** on board for the meeting. It's always good to see **Roy Kerton** and his wife **Ladonna** at the meetings as well as **Charlie Long**. **Royal Jensen** may be setting up a tour of his employer's facility in El Dorado Hills for SABLA members. It's an interesting industrial plant that handles the printing and distribution of billing invoices for most credit card companies and the like, via the USPS. The facility handles so much mail from its location that the USPS has given the company its own zip code. The post office has semi-tractor trailer trucks load the mail directly from their docks for distribution throughout the country. Stay tuned for more info.

SABLA's Spring Fling has been con-

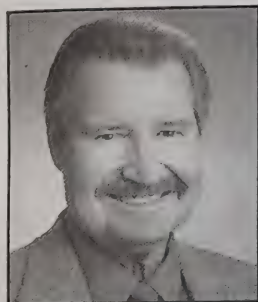
firmed for Sunday, June 6, 2004 (D-Day for all you veterans). The total cost is \$20 per person. It includes an "all you can eat" barbecue including pork ribs, sliced beef and barbecue chicken. Fixings to go along with the entrée include potato salad, pasta salad, barbecue beans and fresh fruit salad. Soft beverages and bottled water will be provided by SABLA. The "Back Forty Texas BBQ," located in Shingle Springs, will cater the delicious food as they have in the past. Make your plans now to attend the event in "Greenstone Country" located in Placerville. If you're going to be in the area, feel free to join our festivities (barbecue, horseshoes, fishing w/license, volleyball are all available including just relaxing). Let me know if you'd want to bring your horse to ride the riding trails. Please forward all Spring Fling checks (payable to SABLA) to **Hoy Key**. Hope to see you there!

Another update: Our annual Christmas party will be held at the Roseville Elks Lodge. It will be a buffet with all the trimmings and at a reduced cost from the past. Looking forward to it. More to follow as info becomes available (date/time).

Well, that's the latest from Sacramento. Take care and enjoy your retirement. And if you are not retired, plan ahead and look forward to it. ♦

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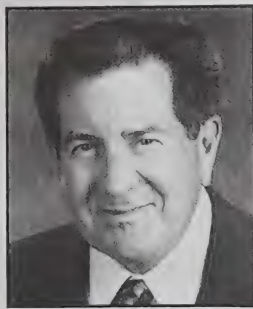
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RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Retirement Reception
Honoring

CAPTAIN WALLY GRAVES, #17344

Friday, May 21, 2004
1700-2100 Hours

Host Bar / Hor d'oeuvres

PROUD BIRD RESTAURANT
11022 Aviation Boulevard

RSVP: Dede Price at (310) 202-4579
Valerie Earl at (301) 202-4571

The Los Angeles Police Department Announces A ...
"Old Fashion Steak Fry" Retirement Dinner
Honoring...

Detective III

CHARLES HAWLEY

Harbor
Detectives

#17345

April 16, 2004

At

Harbor Range

Social 4:00 PM
Dinner 6:00 PM

Cost:

\$20.00 per person

Chuck's Rap Sheet

Feb 72-July 72	Recruit	Academy
July 72-Sept 73	P-1/P-2	Harbor Div
Sept 73-July 78	P-1	77th St Div
July 78-July 79	P-1	Subst Div
July 79-Sept 83	P-1	Air Support Div
Sept 83-Sept 85	D-1	Western Dist
Sept 85-July 89	D-1/D-2	Harbor Dist
July 89-Aug 90	D-1	SB Station
Aug 90-May 91	MSgt (USMCR)	Desert Special Desert Storm
May 91-Feb 94	D-1	SB Station
Feb 94-July 04	D-1/P-1	Harbor Dist

Ticket Contacts

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Andy Cason
(310) 548-7621
Brenda Corbett
(310) 548-2817



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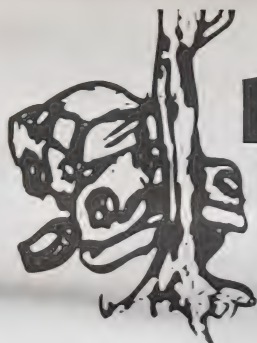
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Rank Name Serial No. Last Assigned toNo. of Years

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C04-01

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A-5

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G00-02

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A-12

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A-8

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G02-03

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B04-04

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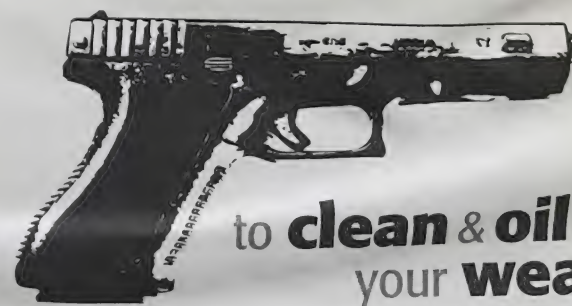
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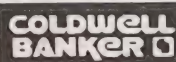


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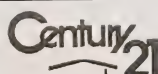
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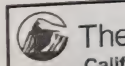


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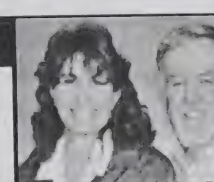
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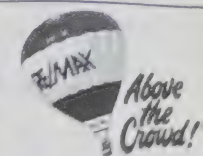
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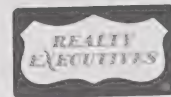
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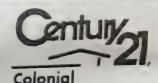
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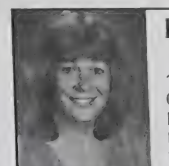


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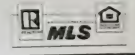
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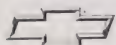
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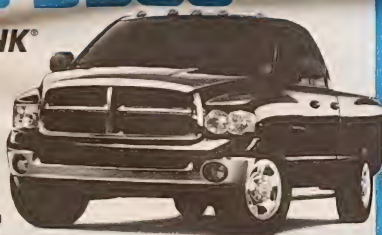
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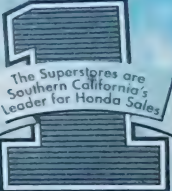
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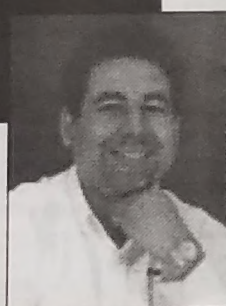
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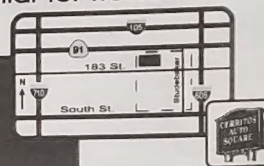
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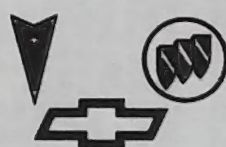


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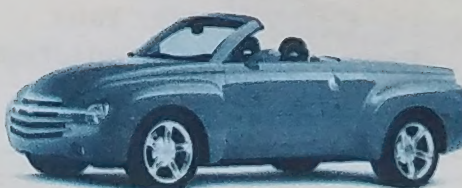
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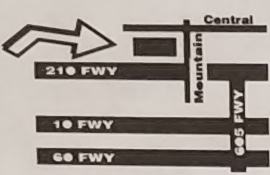
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